HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES

FIRST SESSION — THIRD PARLIAMENT

37 VICTORIA

VOLUME VIII

COMPRISING THE PERIOD

FROM THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF MARCH, 1874

TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF MAY, 1874

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Foreword

This volume, the eighth and final in the series to reconstruct the Debates of the House of Commons, represents an unofficial record of debate drawn from newspaper reports of the day for the First Session of the Third Parliament, dating from 26 March until 26 May, 1874.

Canada's Third Parliament opened on March 26 with a new government in power: Alexander Mackenzie led the Liberal Party in a majority government, having defeated the sitting Conservative Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald in the general election of January 22, 1874. The Liberal government would last for only this Parliament, however, with Macdonald returning to power after the next general election in 1878, and the Conservatives forming majority governments through the subsequent 18 years.

Debates in 1874 still heard the ghosts of the previous parliament's disputes, with the Pacific Railway issue resulting in a compromised plan for development of rail in Western Canada, a plan which left British Columbia disappointed and its Members furious. The opening session of the Third Parliament also saw the culmination of the Riel Affair: Louis Riel had won the seat representing Provencher, Manitoba in an 1873 by-election. He was re-elected in the same riding in the general election, and though Riel did sign the roll of members in late March, he never sat in the Commons. The report for the 30th of March in this volume gives an indication of the level of interest and anticipation around Riel's attendance palpable in Parliament at the time.

The majority of government spending was focused on infrastructure development as would be expected for a new and expanding country and prohibition was a constant preoccupation of the chamber, with petitions for prohibition being tabled regularly.

In the context of the reconstituted debates project, it is perhaps most significant that official reporting of debates was finally determined in this session: both the previous and the sitting Prime Minister had endorsed the idea of official reporting, and the matter was referred to a select committee who presented their report on the matter on the 8th of May, 1874. Thus, official reporting began in 1875, and with this final volume, the reconstituted debates project now closes. We are indebted to Parliamentary Librarian, Sonia L'Heureux, and her predecessors who, together with their staff, have filled this significant gap in the record of our Parliament's earliest years, and who continue to work to render our documentary heritage more broadly accessible to the world's researchers, students, and readers of Canada's proud history.

The Hon. Andrew Scheer, M.P.
Speaker of the House of Commons
Ottawa, 2013

Preface

From the early years of Confederation to 1875, when the House of Commons began to report its debates officially, speeches delivered in the House were reported in major newspapers of the day, notably the Ottawa Times and the Toronto Globe. Parliamentary library staff clipped the reports and preserved them in scrapbooks; these became known as the "Scrapbook Debates", which have provided most of the source material in producing the present volume.

This volume represents the First Session of the Third Parliament and brings to light a period of parliamentary history presenting numerous firsts; notably, the governing party changed for the first time in the existence of our young nation, and a law was passed to create the first Military College in Canada. In terms of lasts, this session represents the last without an official record of debates.

As Parliamentary Librarian, I take great pride in having led this final stretch of the reconstituted debates project, which has served to fill the gap in Canada's early parliamentary record. Reconstruction of the parliamentary record from 1867 to 1874 was initiated in the 1960s under Eric Spicer, then Parliamentary Librarian. In his Preface to the first volume, he described the reconstituted debates as "very valuable in preserving a continuous record of the political history of the Dominion". I echo that sentiment as we mark the publication of this final volume in the project.

I am grateful to the Honourable Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons, for his support and recognition of the value of this work. Thanks are due to Dr. David Farr, one of three eminent Canadian historians who over the years have painstakingly reconstructed this material from primary sources. Thanks also go to Lynn Brodie, Director General, Information and Document Resource Service, to our dedicated Library staff, and to our parliamentary partners for their support and invaluable contribution to the project.

Sonia L'Heureux
Parliamentary Librarian
Ottawa, 2013

Introduction

This edition of the Debates of the House of Commons for the First Session of Canada's Third Parliament, held in the year 1874, is the eighth and final volume published by the Library of Parliament to reconstitute the earliest debates of the House from sources of the time. The Canadian Senate had already begun keeping a record of its debates in 1871, and in the session of 1874 a reform-minded House of Commons would decide to do likewise. Official reporting of the Commons Debates in the Canadian *Hansard* would begin in 1875, with the Second Session of the Third Parliament.

Our knowledge of the Senate and House debates prior to the establishment of the official records of the two chambers is derived from the private verbatim reports of the newspapers of the day, for whose readers the deliberations of Parliament were a subject of high interest. Such parliamentary reporting in the press was often quite extensive. For example, the Toronto *Globe*, the newspaper which, during the years immediately after Confederation, devoted the most space to reporting the Senate and the House of Commons, often assigned half or more of several of its large nine-column pages to the proceedings in Parliament. With a page size of 20 x 30 inches, these long columns of dense Victorian type gave a substantial account of what was done and said.

The newspaper accounts of the debates were collected by the staff of the Library of Parliament and pasted into large ledgers, from which they have gained the name "Scrapbook Debates". Until the reconstitution project issued its first volume in 1967, the "Scrapbook Debates" in the Library were our most convenient source for a record of the early debates in Parliament.[1] The newspaper reporting of the debates was frankly partisan since a political point of view was a hall-mark of the Canadian press in the mid-Victorian period. Partisanship was most usually shown by the shortening of the opposing party's contribution to a debate and a fuller reporting of your own party's position. Occasionally distortions and half-truths were resorted to in the political wars of the newspapers but lapses of this sort are less common.

For the 1874 session the fullest account of the proceedings of the House and Senate is to be found in the Toronto *Globe*. This is hardly surprising. The *Globe* had been established in 1844 by the man who founded and dominated the Reform/Liberal political faction in Ontario, George Brown. In 1874 the *Globe* was celebrating the accession to office of the first national Reform/Liberal government, led by Brown's colleague Alexander Mackenzie, Brown, no longer in the thick of political conflict since an electoral defeat in 1867, remained a close adviser to Mackenzie. He was present in Ottawa during much of the 1874 parliamentary session, having been appointed to the Senate in December 1873. Thus the *Globe* spared no effort to ensure that the speeches of the virtuous Grits in the House and Senate were fully and faithfully reported. As the newspaper with the largest circulation in Canada, the *Globe* was a

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[1] There have been difficulties for the editor and transcribers in preparing this edition of the 1874 Commons Debates. The ledgers containing the *Globe's* reports for that year have been unaccountably lost from the Parliamentary Library. Thus it has been necessary to go back to original and microfilm versions of the newspaper for the text of its coverage of the debates. In many instances this material has been less legible than photocopies taken directly from the Library's clippings from the newspaper. There is, therefore, a greater possibility of textual error for the reconstitution of the 1874 debates than for the reconstitution of the debates of earlier years.

formidable voice on the Canadian political scene. It is the principal source for this edition of the reconstituted Commons debates.

The other newspaper which nicely complemented the *Globe* during these years, both in its extensive reporting of parliamentary debates and in its political point of view, was the Ottawa *Times*. The *Times* was a young upstart compared to the *Globe*, having come to Ottawa as recently as 1865, the child of a Quebec City newspaper. Its editors, George and James Cotton, began their enterprise with the hope of winning the contract to publish an official *Hansard*. Thus during the first administration of Sir John A. Macdonald (1867-1873) they were particularly solicitous of the views of the government. Their reporting was often fuller respecting Conservative spokesmen than it was for the views of the opposition. In 1870 and 1871 James Cotton published a shortened version of the reports of the debates for the benefit of members of the Commons. This gesture did not gain the proprietor of the *Times* the prize he sought because the Macdonald government took no action to institute an official *Hansard*. That initiative was left to the new Liberal administration of Alexander Mackenzie when it came into office. The *Times* attempted to win the favour of the new government but its conversion was regarded with suspicion by the Liberals and the contract, when it was awarded, went to another interest. The *Times* faltered and surrendered its task, ceasing publication in 1877.

Other Canadian newspapers took only a passing interest in the debates in the federal Parliament. A partial exception would be the Toronto *Mail*, specifically founded by Macdonald and his associates (1872) to provide a Conservative voice in Toronto. Reports from the *Mail* occasionally found their way into the "Scrapbook Debates" and have been utilized in this compilation. Other English-language newspapers, in Montreal, Halifax and Saint John, paid only a fleeting attention to the debates in Ottawa. French-language newspapers showed even less interest, their legislative reporting being directed to the proceedings of the assembly in Quebec City. There were a number of reasons for this bias in favour of the provincial scene, one of the major ones being the virtually unilingual character of the debates in Ottawa. French-language contributions to the debates were rare in the 1870's and when they were made they were often cursorily reported by the English-speaking correspondents in attendance. Occasionally a speech by a local member was reported in a Quebec newspaper but these instances were not frequent.

The rules for preparing the reconstituted version of the early Commons debates from the contemporary newspaper reports are straightforward. They were largely formulated by Professor P. B. Waite, who served as founding editor of the reconstituted debates series, producing the first three volumes (for the sessions of 1867-1868, 1869 and 1870). Professor Waite's editorial guidelines are laid down in his introduction to the First Session of the First Parliament, published in English in 1967, and the present editor's adaptation of Dr. Waite's editorial rules is contained in his own introduction to the debates of the Fifth Session of the First Parliament (session of 1872).

- The most important rule is simply that in the preparation of the reconstituted text, editorial interventions are kept to a minimum. The attempt is to provide a clear and balanced account, as far as this is possible, of what was said in the chamber of the House of Commons.
- The source for particular speeches is not identified; indeed several sources may be drawn upon to produce the most credible account.

- The longer version of a speech is generally preferred since it has been discovered that journalists rarely put words in the mouths of members they were reporting. More often they abridged the remarks of speakers with whose opinions they had little sympathy. Sometimes words have been inserted or removed in order to give a clearer understanding of what might have been said.
- Spellings have been corrected, sometimes in members' names, frequently in geographical place names. To reporters from Ontario, the distant spaces of the Atlantic Provinces, Manitoba and especially British Columbia, were a *tabula rasa*.

The reader should bear in mind, however, that it will never be possible to construct a wholly accurate rendering of the early debates of Parliament. The text here presented is as clear and objective as human intervention, more than 120 years later, can provide.

Now that the reconstitution of the early Commons debates has reached its final lap, it is appropriate to say a word about the genesis of the project and those who guided it. Norman Ward of the University of Saskatchewan, a noted student of Canada's Parliament, was the first to conceive the project, making his interest known to the Hon. Roland Michener, Speaker of the House, 1957-1962, who strongly endorsed the proposal. Erik J. Spicer, Parliamentary Librarian, saw the plan as a worthy Centennial project for Parliament. The Speakers of the Day, the Hon. Sydney J. Smith of the Senate and the Hon. Lucien Lamoureux of the Commons, gave the project their blessing.[2]

The task of preparing the reconstituted debates has been carried out by three editors. Over a ten-year span from 1967 to 1976, P. B. Waite of Dalhousie University published reconstituted debates of both the Senate and the House of Commons for the first three sessions of the First Parliament, 1867-1868, 1869 and 1870. Norman Ward of the University of Saskatchewan then edited the 1871 session of the Commons Debates, with an important historical introduction later provided by Duncan McDowall. David Farr of Carleton University subsequently edited the Commons Debates for the final session of the First Parliament in 1872, for the two tumultuous sessions of the Second Parliament in 1873, and for the First Session of the Third Parliament in 1874. In every case the original English text had been translated into French by Government of Canada Translation Services. The bilingual texts were then transcribed by the Directorate of Parliamentary Publications of the House of Commons into the format of the contemporary *Hansard*.

The Commons Debates for the five sessions from 1871 to 1874 were all brought to publication between 2009 and 2014, as the fruits of a twenty-year project co-ordinated by several capable members of the staff of the Library of Parliament. Students of the history of Canada's Parliament will be forever in their debt.

The reconstitution of the early Debates of the House of Commons, in English and French, is now complete. The remaining task, and it is not a slight one, is to prepare a French language text of the early debates of the Senate. When that task is completed Canada will possess a bilingual text of all the proceedings of its federal Parliament from its origins in 1867 to the present day. As a mine of material on the political life and history of Canada during the first

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[2] More information on the original project to reconstitute the early debates of the Parliament of Canada is found in David Farr, "Reconstituting the Early Debates of the Parliament of Canada", *Canadian Parliamentary Review,* 15 (Spring 1992), pp. 26-32.

years of Confederation, the reconstituted debates will represent a distinctive and unsurpassed historical resource.

Third Parliament, First Session
from 26 March 1874 to 26 May 1874
The setting

The Second Parliament of Canada, just ended, had been short but eventful. It had been elected in August 1872, began its first session on 5 March 1873, was prorogued amid scandal on 13 August 1873, then was reconvened on 23 October for a second session which proved fatal to the government. A new government met the House on 7 November but then prorogued the second session to allow the return of its ministers and other candidates in by-elections. Despite victories in all of these no third session was to be; the Second Parliament had been dissolved on 2 January 1874.

The Second Parliament had been dominated by discussion of the "Pacific scandal", the charges of serious financial impropriety on the part of the governing Conservative party during the general election of 1872. Facing an adverse vote in the Commons over the issue, Sir John A. Macdonald and his colleagues resigned office on 5 November. They were immediately succeeded as a government by the opposition Reform or Liberal party, the only time when a majority government in Canada has resigned through the defection of its supporters and given way to another without an intervening general election. The new government was headed by the prominent Ontario Reform leader, Alexander Mackenzie of Sarnia. It was only after considering for almost two months the relative merits of carrying on in a third session or going to the people for a clear mandate that the Mackenzie government asked the Governor-General, Lord Dufferin, to dissolve the Second Parliament and issue writs for Canada's second general election in seventeen months.

Although not required by law, the third general election was, as far as possible, held simultaneously across the country. Most electoral districts voted in late January or early February, thus providing no electoral advantage for the governing party in the spacing of the contests. A single polling day for general elections was indeed to form part of the electoral law of 1874, a centrepiece in the returned Mackenzie government's legislation. The Liberals, continuing the stance they had taken in opposition, campaigned not only for major reform in Canada's electoral law, but for the creation of a Supreme Court and for a scale-down in the construction of the trans-continental railway promised to British Columbia when it entered Confederation in 1871. Their platform won overwhelming public support.

The Third Parliament, which assembled on 26 March 1874, was the same size as the Second Session of the Second Parliament, when six members from newly-admitted Prince Edward Island had taken their seats for the first time. It consisted of 206 members, distributed among the seven provinces in the following manner:

Quebec	65	(the benchmark for assigning provincial representation)
Ontario	88	
Nova Scotia	21	
New Brunswick	16	
Manitoba	4	
British Columbia	6	
Prince Edward Island	6	

Of the 206 members elected in the winter federal election of 1874, no fewer than 70 came to the House of Commons for the first time. The substantial turnover in membership of the House reflected the disastrous losses the Liberal-Conservative party (Conservatives) had suffered in the recent election. From a core Commons support of perhaps 104 members after their victorious 1872 contest, Macdonald's party was reduced to 67 supporters, a loss of about one-third of its strength. The Liberals, on the other hand, won 138 seats in 1874 compared to the much smaller core support they had won in opposition in 1872, in a Parliament where the Maritime Liberals in fact mostly intended to vote with the Conservatives. In 1873 even with the support of the Maritimers the Liberal opposition, until the final defections that caused the government's collapse, could muster no more than perhaps 96 votes in the House; after the election of 1874, the revitalized and unified Liberal government, with the support of an independent from Manitoba, held a majority of some 70 seats over the opposition Conservatives. Forty-eight of the seventy members making their first appearance in the Third Parliament belonged to the Liberal ranks.

Seven years after Confederation and in an election fought on the issue of corruption in government, party affiliations had become more meaningful than in previous elections.[3] There was still uncertainty regarding the position of individual members from the Maritime Provinces but party divisions in Quebec and Ontario were clear cut. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the Conservatives held on to only eight seats out of the 37 at stake in the two provinces. All six members returned from Prince Edward Island were Liberals. In Quebec the Liberals made smaller gains but still won 35 seats as opposed to the Conservatives' 30. It is significant that 29 seats in Quebec were decided by acclamation, a measure of the continuing traditional basis of voting in that province. In Ontario the Liberals won a resounding victory, taking 66 of the province's 88 seats, 18 more than they had won seventeen months earlier. Thirteen of the Ontario Liberal candidates came into office through acclamation. The Conservatives took the 22 remaining seats. Manitoba sent two Liberals to Ottawa, together with a Conservative and the Métis leader, Louis Riel. Only British Columbia, insistent on the completion of the Pacific railway on the strict terms of union, gave its full support to the Conservatives.

No fewer than thirty by-elections, or "special elections" as they were called, were held in the first year of the Third Parliament.[4] The most common cause was the need to elect a new member after the results of a previous election had been successfully challenged. The Controverted Elections Act of 1873 (36 Vict., cap. 28) placed the responsibility of examining disputed elections on the courts rather than on committees of the House of Commons. But the new procedure took months to follow through, with the result that members returned in the third general election but challenged in the courts occupied and held on to their seats throughout the sitting of 1874. Eighteen members of the Commons, judged to have won their seats through irregular elections, went through a second election in the final months of the year, to be safely returned to their seats. (Sir John A. Macdonald himself endured this experience in Kingston.) In four other cases a new member was returned when earlier elections had been declared void, but only after the session of 1874 had ended. And a

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[3] Party standings in the Third Parliament are drawn from *The Canadian Directory of Parliament, 1867-1967,* edited by J.K. Johnson, Ottawa, Public Archives of Canada, 1968, and from J. Murray Beck, *Pendulum of Power,* Scarborough, Ontario, Prentice-Hall, 1968, pp. 22-29.

[4] The "special elections" held in 1874 are meticulously set forth in N. Ormer Coté, (ed.), *Political Appointments, Parliaments and the Judicial Bench in the Dominion of Canada, 1867-1895,* Ottawa, Thoburn and Co., 1896, pp. 216-227.

member who died after the close of the session, William Harvey of Elgin East, was replaced in a special election held on 11 August 1874.

Five of the special elections held during the year were to replace members of the House of Commons who had resigned, but only two affected membership in the First Session of the Third Parliament. In Durham West, Ontario, a long-time colleague of Mackenzie and Edward Blake, Edmund Burke Wood, who had won re-election in January, resigned his seat on 11 March when he was appointed Chief Justice of Manitoba. Wood, therefore, did not sit in the opening session of the Third Parliament. On 10 April Harvey William Burk, another Liberal, was elected to succeed him. Another veteran Liberal who had sat in Parliament since Confederation, Ebenezer Vining Bodwell of Oxford South, resigned his place on 23 April to become superintendent of the Welland Canal. He was succeeded by Col. James A. Skinner, who assumed Bodwell's seat on 26 May, the final day of the First Session of the Third Parliament. Three other resignations occurred after the First Session. Two Liberal ministers, A.-A. Dorion and William Ross, resigned following the sitting to take up positions of emolument under the Crown, while a Nova Scotia member, E.R. Oakes of Digby, left the House in September to take up an appointment to the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia.

In addition, a by-election was required when Félix Geoffrion of Verchères was brought into the cabinet in July as minister of Inland Revenue. And then there was the case of the Métis rebel Louis Riel, twice elected for Provencher in Manitoba in 1874, actually sworn in once as a member, but forbidden to take his seat by order of the House.

The players

During the 1874 session the Liberal cabinet, headed by Alexander Mackenzie as prime minister, was composed of thirteen individuals, two of whom sat in the Senate. The cabinet was a disparate collection of Liberal/Reformers, few of whom had enjoyed previous experience in government.

Mackenzie himself, 52 years old in 1874, had served as the federal leader for Ontario of the Liberal/Reform group since 1867. In 1873 he had become the national leader of the Liberals, a party whose Ontario, Quebec and Maritime wings were slow to coalesce into a coherent political faction. Mackenzie was thus the first official Leader of the Opposition in the Canadian Parliament. When the Macdonald government fell on 5 November 1873 Mackenzie had been diffident about assuming the position of leader of the government, believing that his brilliant but unstable Ontario colleague, Edward Blake, possessed greater authority for the task. But Blake declined to assume the leadership and Mackenzie was obliged to head the new administration. Intent on eliminating waste in railway and canal contracts, Mackenzie himself also assumed the demanding portfolio of public works in addition to the post of prime minister.

Edward Blake even hesitated to enter the new cabinet in any definite ministerial capacity. Eventually he came in as a minister without portfolio but withdrew in February 1874, shortly before the new session began. Other prominent Liberals too were reluctant to serve in cabinet. Luther H. Holton, for example, a prominent and experienced Quebec Liberal, refused, for personal reasons, to become minister of finance.

The leader of the Nova Scotia Liberals, Col. Alfred G. Jones of Halifax, also declined to enter the ministry. Albert James Smith from Westmorland, a former premier of New Brunswick,

did come onside as minister of marine and fisheries, but otherwise Mackenzie was obliged to fall back on lesser Liberals from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick to provide Maritime representation in his administration.

The strength of the cabinet, however, lay in Quebec and Ontario, notably in the persons of Québec Rouge leader Antoine-Aimé Dorion of Napierville, twice premier of the old Province of the United Canadas, and Richard Cartwright of Kingston, a former supporter of Macdonald's. Dorion was appointed minister of justice and Cartwright was given the finance portfolio. Mackenzie, Cartwright and Dorion were the chief spokesmen for the government in the new Parliament. Dorion remained at Mackenzie's side during the session of 1874 but reluctantly resigned, to become chief justice of Quebec and shore up a weak provincial bench, on 31 May 1874.

If the Liberal cabinet was not outstanding, the Conservative opposition benches were not filled with talent either. Macdonald brooded, unable to give up his post as leader because of the determination of his followers that he stay on and rehabilitate the party. His interventions in debate in 1874 were scattered and usually of brief duration. His trusted Quebec lieutenant, Sir George-Étienne Cartier, had been dead for almost a year and Cartier's successor, Hector-Louis Langevin, had been defeated in the recent general election. Sir Francis Hincks was not in the new Parliament and Macdonald's former finance minister, Leonard Tilley, had given up his seat to become lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick. John Carling had been defeated in London, the Hon. James McDonald in Pictou and the brothers Gibbs, T.N. and W.H., had lost their seats in Ontario.

Only the redoubtable Dr. Charles Tupper, premier of Nova Scotia until Confederation and still the member of Parliament from Cumberland, was left as a familiar figure on the opposition benches. But Tupper was a mighty host, an army all by himself. In addition to acting as the Conservatives' chief budget critic, Tupper was heard on almost every important issue that came before Parliament during the 1874 session. On the government's revised plans for the Pacific railway, for instance, Mackenzie and Tupper engaged in a long and biting dialogue that dominated the debate.

A session of reforms

One hundred and seventeen pieces of legislation were introduced and piloted through the First Session of the Third Parliament. True to their campaign pledges, the Liberals placed emphasis on the reform of the electoral process, something they saw as essential for the establishment of a working democracy in British North America. In their eyes, Macdonald and his colleagues had cynically manipulated elections for their own benefit; their tactics should now be ruled beyond the pale for the future.

The first step in this process had been achieved the year before through the abolition of dual representation in provincial legislatures and the House of Commons (36 Vict., Cap. 2, 1873). This act went into effect with the dissolution of the Second Parliament on 2 January 1874. Thus there were no members of the Third Parliament who also sat in local legislatures. During the first session of 1873 there had also been passed a new controverted elections act, under which judges, rather than committees of members, reviewed petitions arising from disputed elections (36 Vict, Cap.28, 1873). An expanded version of this measure was passed the next year in the 1874 session (37 Vict., Cap. 10.) The stage was therefore set for a major revision of Canada's electoral law in the session of 1874.

The electoral legislation of 1874 was the child of A.-A. Dorion, minister of justice, a veteran Rouge who had fought his way through many elections and knew their defects. Introduced by Dorion for second reading in a long speech on 21 April, the bill was the subject of lengthy debates over fine points before attaining royal assent at the end of the session on 26 May 1874. The act (37 Vict., Cap. 9) overhauled federal voting practices. General elections were now to be held on the same day across the country, except for isolated ridings in Ontario and Quebec and for contests in Manitoba and British Columbia. The secret ballot would become the norm in federal elections as it had already become in New Brunswick even before 1867 and in Nova Scotia in 1870; Ontario had adopted it in 1873 and Quebec was to follow two years later. Election expenses were to be tabulated and made public within two months after the voting and the use of liquor for election purposes was forbidden. The franchise for Dominion elections was to continue to be defined by the provinces, except that property qualifications were to be abolished. The old-style raucous election meetings "on the hustings", held for the purpose of publicly nominating candidates, were to become a thing of the past.

The whole of the electoral law of 1874 was used for the first time in the fourth general election on 17 September 1878. The secret ballot was used for the first time federally in a by-election in the constituency of Toronto City West in November 1875.

Reformers in the Ontario wing of the Liberals continued in the First Session of the Third Parliament to make efforts to modify the structure of the federal government. The legally learned David Mills, member for Bothwell, moved that the Senate be appointed by the provincial legislatures, while George W. Ross, member for Middlesex West, argued in favour of an elected Senate. A debate on the subject occurred on 13 April 1874 but it was inconclusive, the Mackenzie government having no intention of committing itself on the matter; late in 1873 it had already sought, but failed to get, approval from Whitehall to appoint extra Senators itself and swamp the Conservatives in the upper house.

A change in House practice introduced in the 1874 session complemented the new electoral law. This was the decision, made through the adoption of a committee report, to begin the official recording of the debates of the Commons. The matter had come up many times before in the First and Second Parliaments but had never won the necessary bipartisan support. The objections to the introduction of official reporting were twofold: that the task has already been carried out satisfactorily by newspapers such as the *Globe* and the *Times* and that official reporting would be too costly. There were also the side issues as to whether official reporting could ever be truly non-partisan and whether it would encourage verbosity in the House.

Alexander Mackenzie, who had prepared the first report favouring an official *Hansard* in the 1867-1868 session, saw a public record of debates, prepared by the Commons' own staff, as leading to a more accountable Parliament. He envisioned an official record of debates as similar in intent to the changes embodied in the new electoral law. Mackenzie was supported, in his endorsement of an official record, by Dr. Charles Tupper, who saw such a record as a useful historical document for the Canadian people and as a reference source for prospective settlers and investors living abroad.

In 1872 the Commons had decided, as an experiment, to purchase copies for members of a shortened report of the debates prepared by James Cotton of the Ottawa *Times*. Six hundred copies of the "Cotton Debates" for 1870 and 1871 were eventually purchased and distributed.

The Senate, in the meantime, had adopted official reporting with the appointment of the young John George Bourinot of Sydney as "Short-Hand Writer to the Senate and Committees of the Senate". Bourinot had begun recording Senate debates in 1871, establishing the first continuous official record of debates in the Canadian Parliament.

In the light of his long-standing interest in an official *Hansard*, Prime Minister Mackenzie did not delay in striking a select committee of the House of Commons in 1874 to enquire into "the most effectual and cheapest mode of obtaining the publication of a Canadian *Hansard*". The committee of nine members was led by James Young of Waterloo South, a businessman from Galt. With Tupper's backing, the committee went to work, reporting on 18 May. The official record of debates should begin in the next session with each intervention to be reported in its own language. There should be a Chief Reporter, a permanent employee of the House and under him four reporters, one French-speaking. Two thousand copies of *Hansard* would be printed in sheet form, one for each newspaper in Canada and six for each member. The probable cost of the operation for each session would be $7984, of which $5000 would be needed for the stipends of the reporters. The committee's report was opposed by a small group of members, the proponents of private reporting. The most outspoken were both Liberals: Frank Killam of Yarmouth and Robert Wilkes from Toronto City Centre. Their amendment was turned down on a division, as Mackenzie, Blake, Mills, Macdonald and J.-E. Cauchon all endorsed the proposal for an official report. Thus the official record of debates for the Commons would begin with the Second Session of the Third Parliament in 1875.[5]

If reform of the political process was a congenial subject for the new government, the responsibility for the construction of the Pacific railway linking British Columbia with Ontario was not. The terms of union for British Columbia's entry into Confederation, negotiated by the Macdonald government in 1871, contained generous provisions for the completion of a transcontinental railway. The line would be commenced within two years of the act of union, i.e. by July 1873. It would be completed within ten years, i.e. by July 1881. Evidence suggests that even the British Columbia delegates were surprised by the promises made by the federal government respecting the railway. In addition Cartier, the minister responsible for the negotiation of the railway terms, had promised that the enterprise would be carried out without an increase in general taxation! The Liberal opposition had been aghast at the railway commitments, which it characterized as reckless and ruinous, from the moment the terms had been announced. It had fought the Macdonald government's transportation plans through the parliamentary sessions of 1872 and 1873, but in vain. It had seen the company chartered to build the railway fail because of its inability to raise the necessary private capital in England. It had seen the government which had sponsored the railway fall from grace and leave office. Now it was faced with the awesome responsibility of carrying forward the Pacific railway project.

By 1874 the management of the project seemed more of a burden than ever. An economic slump in North America had depressed Canadian government revenues and two years of waiting had only hardened the demand of the province of British Columbia that the railway terms be fully honoured. They represented a solemn obligation on the part of the federal government, the administration in Victoria insisted. True, surveys for the line were going forward, but in the western mountains they only revealed what most people suspected, that the

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[5] For a fuller account of the controversy over official reporting of debates see David Farr, "Reconstituting the Early Debates of the Parliament of Canada", *Canadian Parliamentary Review,* 15 (Spring 1992), pp. 26-32.

construction of a railway through British Columbia represented, in the words of the chief engineer for the project, a work of the "most formidable character".

Faced with these inhospitable conditions, the Mackenzie government, on taking office, decided to continue with surveys, mainly in the rocky country north and west of the Great Lakes, develop land routes west of Lake Superior through the improvement of the Dawson road and seek some relaxation of the railway terms from the other partner to the contract.

To the latter end it despatched a young Toronto lawyer who had failed to win re-election in January, James Edgar, out to British Columbia in March 1874. Edgar was to offer the construction of a graving dock for the naval base at Esquimalt on Vancouver Island in return for concessions from British Columbia. It was clear that construction of the line could not, realistically, be completed in ten years. Surveys would be pressed forward energetically, with the understanding that construction would follow as quickly as possible. Ottawa would begin to lay down a telegraph line and build a wagon road along the route of the proposed railway without delay. If these terms did not satisfy British Columbia, Ottawa would consider building a railway from Esquimalt north to Nanaimo to link up with the transcontinental when it reached the Pacific coast. The Esquimalt and Nanaimo line was clearly seen as a compensation for the non-fulfilment of the principal railway terms, since it would have no appeal for residents of the province living on the mainland. The Edgar mission failed in spite of a promise to build the Vancouver Island railway, to construct the telegraph line and to prosecute the route surveys energetically.

The Mackenzie government had to bring forward a new railway plan, reluctantly conscious that the line would have to be built, in the main, with public funds. On 12 May 1874, in a lengthy presentation to the House, Mackenzie outlined the Liberal government's railway policy. British Columbia would be requested once more to drop its insistence on the ten-year period for the construction of the railway and in return Ottawa would build the line from Esquimalt to Nanaimo. The engineers would endeavour to use "water stretches" for transportation where possible across the plains. There would be a line connecting Fort Garry with the railways in the American territory to the south and another link would connect Georgian Bay with southern Ontario railways. British Columbia would be given more financial backing to build the new graving dock at Esquimalt. The construction of the railway would be carried forward as a leading purpose of the federal government but it would have to be accomplished without "increasing the present rate of taxation". (This was the pledge Cartier had given in 1871.) The Liberal government's railway motion, although bitterly opposed by British Columbia members such as Amor De Cosmos, was easily approved in the House of Commons.

The session of 1874 heard no more about the Pacific railway but the issue continued to plague the Liberal government. Lord Dufferin, the Governor-General, and Lord Carnarvon, the colonial secretary in London, suggested a recourse to arbitration by the imperial government to settle the railway dispute with British Columbia.[6] Reluctantly the loyal Mackenzie agreed to this intervention, which would centre on the question of whether or not the Liberal motion was fulfilling Ottawa's railway obligations. Eventually Carnarvon put forward new terms, accepted conditionally by the Mackenzie government but never approved by Parliament and thus inoperative. The matter dragged on, to embitter the relations between Mackenzie and

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[6] *Dufferin-Carnarvon Correspondence 1874-1878,* edited by C.W. de Kiewiet and F.H. Underhill Toronto: Champlain Society, 1955, pp. 60 ff.

Blake and Lord Dufferin in 1876. It was not until 1885, under another government and another private railway company, that the Canadian Pacific Railway was brought to completion.

Towards the end of the First Session of the Third Parliament the Mackenzie government brought forward a proposal for the establishment of a Canadian military college. The Hon. William Ross, minister of militia and defence, explained the purposes and structure of the new college on the second reading of its founding bill on 15 May. The college would combine the best features of the instruction offered at West Point in the United States and at famous British institutions such as Sandhurst and Woolwich. It would train officers for service in the cavalry, the artillery, the engineers and the infantry. An argument strongly in its favour was that it would also meet the need for engineers for civil tasks as well as military ones. Once its four-year course of study was in place, it would have an enrolment of 96 cadets.

There was general approval for the scheme in the Commons, the chief point of discussion being competing claims by members for the location of the school. The government had not announced a site, saying only that it was proposed to locate the college in one of the country's garrison towns. But Mackenzie had worked on the Martello towers in Kingston as a young stone mason, and in June he revisited Fort Henry, already the site of a school for gunnery for the Canadian militia. By the end of the year it was known that the military college would be located at Kingston. Instruction began at the college in 1876.

Louis Riel, M.P.

By far the most dramatic moments in the First Session of the Third Parliament arose from the early clash between French and English-speaking members in the House of Commons over the election and seating of Louis Riel.

Riel, the Métis leader in the Red River who had been instrumental in winning provincial status for Manitoba in 1870, was a fiercely controversial figure in 1874. His decision, as leader of the provisional government at Red River, to execute an opponent, the obstreperous Orangeman Thomas Scott, outraged residents of Scott's home province, Ontario. Riel was indicted for Scott's murder before a grand jury in Manitoba and the government of Ontario offered a reward of $5000 for his arrest. Complicating the question was a government promise of 1869 that no legal proceedings would be taken against those involved in the Red River uprising. This amnesty had been granted in a proclamation by the Governor-General in December 1869, before Scott's death. Amnesty for Riel and his associates had been discussed during the negotiations for the Manitoba Act but no formal commitment had been made.

The Macdonald government, recognizing the incendiary issue posed by Riel, had secretly paid him an allowance to live in the United States. Riel, however, had returned to the Red River, where he was regarded as a hero by the Métis community in which he lived. In the general election of 1872 he had been persuaded not to try for the Métis seat of Provencher, south of Fort Garry, and had allowed Sir George-Étienne Cartier, defeated earlier in Montreal, to take the seat by acclamation. This practical gesture of support for the Macdonald government did not win him the desired amnesty, however. After Cartier's death Riel was elected for Provencher in a by-election held in October 1873, and again in the general election of 1874.

Shortly before the First Session of the Third Parliament convened, Riel secretly came to Ottawa and, accompanied by Dr. J.-B. Romuald Fiset, Liberal member for Rimouski, took the oath as a member of the House of Commons. This action created a passionate debate between English and French-speaking members. Most Ontario members saw Riel as the murderer of Thomas Scott and a fugitive from justice. Quebec members celebrated him as a hero who had upheld the Roman Catholic faith and French culture in the Northwest. They insisted that he had been guaranteed an amnesty for his conduct during the Red River disturbances, by Sir George-É. Cartier on behalf of the Macdonald government. The issue posed a delicate question for the new Mackenzie administration. It had not been in office at the time of the negotiation of the Manitoba Act but two of its leading members, Alexander Mackenzie and Edward Blake, had been members of the Ontario government which had offered the reward for Riel's arrest.

Riel's audacity in coming to Ottawa to sign the parliamentary roll created great excitement at the opening of the 1874 session. Would the "rebel leader" attempt to take his seat? On the day following the Speech from the Throne, 30 March, Col. L.-F.-R. Masson, a Conservative member (Terrebonne) and a friend of Riel's, delivered an impassioned speech urging an amnesty for Riel and the other Métis leaders. Masson had hardly finished when another militia colonel, Mackenzie Bowell of Belleville, rose to the counter-attack. Bowell, Grandmaster of the Orange Order of British North America since 1870, moved that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery attend the House to produce the evidence respecting Riel's election for Provencher and that the Attorney-General of Manitoba be summoned to give information on Riel's indictment. Both motions, seconded by Dr. John C. Schultz (Lisgar), who had been a leader of the Canadian party in the Red River troubles, were approved without division.

The next day evidence was submitted that showed Riel had been duly elected. There was a long questioning, by Bowell and others, of H.J. Clarke, the Manitoba attorney-general, who appeared at the bar of the House. Bowell's purpose was clearly to show that Riel was a fugitive from justice who had been directly involved in the "murder" of Thomas Scott. At the end of Clarke's interrogation Bowell moved that Riel appear in his place in the House on the following day. This motion was also carried with a recorded vote.

On 1 April, with Riel still not present, the order for his appearance was withdrawn and another date fixed, "Wednesday next" (8 April). The week's delay was caused by the House going into recess for Easter from 2 to 6 April. In the meantime it was decided to appoint a nine-member select committee to enquire into the causes of the difficulties in the Northwest in 1869-1870. Bowell, Edward Blake, Masson and Donald A. Smith, the Hudson's Bay Company official who had negotiated with Riel on behalf of the Canadian government and was now the member for Selkirk, Manitoba, were named to the committee.

When the Commons resumed after the Easter break, the Riel case again took centre stage. Clarke returned to appear before the House again on 8 and 9 April, together with two Ottawa detectives who had been vainly seeking Riel in order to serve him his warrant. Hon. Timothy W. Anglin, the Speaker, called upon the member for Provencher to appear in his place but, as the *Journals* quaintly recorded, "the said Honourable Member appeared not".[7] The way was now clear for Bowell to give notice of his intention to move a motion to expel Riel from the Commons. He had fixed the date of 13 April for this action but for some reason the matter did not come up on that day. The next day had already been allotted for the first budget

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[7] *Journals*, 9 April 1874, p. 37.

address by the new minister of finance so there was no opportunity to discuss the Riel case on that day. Finally the issue came to a climax on 15 and 16 April.

The first of these days was devoted to a lengthy and, at times, heated debate between those demanding an amnesty for Riel (mainly, but not exclusively, French-speaking members) and those who saw Riel as an outlaw who was not entitled to sit in the honourable House of Commons. On 15 April Bowell moved his motion to expel Riel. Two amendments were promptly offered.

The first amendment to Bowell's motion for expulsion was one which stood no chance of passing. It was put forward by Joseph-Alfred Mousseau from Bagot and seconded by L.-F.-G. Baby from Joliette (both Conservatives). The amendment asked for a full and complete pardon for all "acts, crimes and offences that may have been committed in the Province of Manitoba during the [1869-1870] disturbances".[8] This was too sweeping an absolution for Justice Minister A.-A. Dorion and the Quebec Liberal members to accept, and most joined with Ontario Liberals to defeat the amendment, 164 to 27.

The second amendment sought to delay the decision to expel Riel until the select committee of 1 April had reported on the causes of the Red River insurrection, including the promises of amnesty allegedly made to "the actors" in them. This moderate approach was devised by the Hon. Luther H. Holton, a veteran and experienced Liberal representing Châteauguay, who was close to the Mackenzie cabinet. The Hon. Malcolm Cameron, another long serving Liberal (Ontario South) seconded Holton's amendment. This course of action was supported by a rising young Quebec member who had entered the House for the first time in the recent election. Wilfrid Laurier, member for Arthabaska in the Eastern Townships, declared that members had no right to expel Riel before they had seen evidence of the truth of the charges made against him. This they would gain from the findings of the select committee. It was the voice of reason and conciliation that would be heard many times in the future throughout Laurier's career. Holton's suggestion of a stay of proceedings did not satisfy an excited House and his amendment too was defeated, 117-76. Mackenzie, Blake and Macdonald all rejected the course of action proposed.

The way was now clear for the division on the main question, the Bowell-Schultz motion that Riel, having failed to appear in the House on 9 April, be expelled. This question was put to the vote on 16 April. There could be no doubt of the sentiment of the chamber: the motion was carried 124 to 68. The prime minister was to be found among those speaking against Riel. The Manitoba member was a fugitive from justice since there were no grounds to consider Thomas Scott's death a legitimate execution by political authority. It was, rather, a crime against humanity. The issue of whether an amnesty had been promised by the late government should be considered a separate question and investigated by the select committee. Laurier, together with most of the Quebec Liberals, voted against Bowell's motion. But the House had spoken decisively and following the vote the election of Louis Riel to the House of Commons was formally annulled.

It was not to be the end of Riel's political aspirations. The select committee, under the chairmanship of Félix Geoffrion, Liberal member for Verchères, reported on 22 May, only days before the end of the 1874 session. It reached no conclusions but assembled a mass of evidence from 21 witnesses and examination of hundreds of documents over 37 meetings.

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[8] *Journals,* 15 April 1874, p. 65.

There can be no doubt, from the perusal of this material, that Sir George-É. Cartier, on behalf of the Macdonald government, had held out the promise of an amnesty to Riel.[9] The Provencher seat having been declared vacant, a by-election was necessary and called for 3 September. Riel was the only candidate and was defiantly re-elected for the third time by the voters of the Manitoba riding. He did not, however, attempt to take his seat for the 1875 session of Parliament.

Early in the 1875 session Riel's attempts to enter Parliament would come to a conclusion in a second expulsion from the Commons, occasioned not by any action of his but by the eventual political resolution of the Manitoba question. The issue of an amnesty for the leaders of the Red River uprising had continued as a *cause célèbre* in the months after Riel's first expulsion from the Commons. In Manitoba one of his lieutenants, Ambroise Lépine, was tried and found guilty of the murder of Thomas Scott. Riel was clearly also guilty by association. Lépine's death sentence posed a cruel dilemma for the Mackenzie cabinet. Quebec and the Roman Catholic Church continued to demand an amnesty for Riel and his associates. French-speaking members of Mackenzie's cabinet threatened to resign if Lépine's conviction was allowed to stand. Ontario members, reflecting the emotional views of their constituents, pressed for justice to take its course. In the end it was the Governor-General, Lord Dufferin, who extricated Mackenzie and his colleagues from their dilemma. With the approval of the Colonial Office, Dufferin commuted Lépine's death sentence on his own authority, waiting until the Ontario election of January 1875 was over before announcing his decision. Lépine's sentence was commuted to two years' imprisonment, coupled with a loss of civil rights.

In consequence, early in the 1875 session Prime Minister Mackenzie was able to move in the House of Commons that an amnesty be granted to all those involved in the Manitoba troubles except for Riel, Lépine and an associate, W.B. O'Donohue. Riel and Lépine would receive the pardon if they agreed to leave "Her Majesty's dominions" for five years. Riel was once again expelled from the House of Commons on 12 February 1875, when Mackenzie's motion to this effect was carried, 126-50. Riel's Commons seat was declared vacant once again.

Before going into exile, Riel suffered a mental breakdown and was confined, under a pseudonym, in hospitals in Quebec. In 1878 he went to the United States, whence, six years later, he was called back to Canada by the grievances of his people living in northern Saskatchewan. His end would be tragic, executed for renewed rebellion there, and his ghost still haunts Canada today.

An incomplete agenda

Other issues of the day did not surface or were touched upon only briefly in the session of 1874. The Liberals had campaigned on the promise of an appellate court, a supreme court, for the new Dominion but the government put aside this promise during its first crowded year in office. The act establishing the Supreme Court would only be presented during the 1875 session and it would be left to Edward Blake, as the new minister of justice, to argue unsuccessfully with the British authorities that there should be no leave to appeal to England from the judgments of the new court. Appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London would only be abolished in 1949.

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[9] See the committee's report, *Journals* 1874, Appendix 6, "North-West Committee Evidence".

The sensitive New Brunswick school question, turning on whether Roman Catholics in New Brunswick had possessed legal rights to separate schools in 1867, did not come before the 1874 session despite of the best efforts of the indefatigable John Costigan of Victoria, New Brunswick. Instead the matter was pursued through judicial channels. In July, after the session was over, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council dismissed the Catholic minority's appeal against a negative New Brunswick court judgment. In the 1875 session Costigan would try for an amendment to the British North America Act to acknowledge the Catholic position, but his effort was unsuccessful and the issue died. The Liberal administration and the Conservative opposition alike breathed a sigh of relief.

Temperance measures were also on the public agenda in 1874. There was demand for a federal law restricting or banning alcoholic beverages. But the Canada Temperance Act (popularly known as the Scott Act) would only be passed by the Mackenzie Liberals in 1878, allowing for the prohibition of spirituous liquors in municipalities according to the wishes of the electorate, and thereby laying to rest an issue that had dogged Parliaments since Confederation.

Events outside Canada barely touched the 1874 session. The most salient topic was whether the Liberal elder statesman, George Brown, sent by Mackenzie to Washington to try for a renewal of the reciprocity treaty, would be successful. Questions were asked about the state of Brown's negotiations during the session but Mackenzie chose not to be specific in reply. At last, on 18 June, a completed treaty was sent to the United States Senate, but without an endorsement by the Grant administration. It was received by the foreign relations committee, postponed until the following year and never reported into the full Senate. The cause of free trade with the United States of America, advocated by the Liberals, was not an opportune one. Indeed, Macdonald and the Conservatives were to go on to mine a richer deposit of protectionism, with their "National Policy" to protect Canadian manufacturers from American competition helping them back into power in 1878.

The session of 1874 was an important one for the new administration of Alexander Mackenzie. Through it the Liberals were able to establish their credentials as "reformers" and move the country from a reliance on electoral practices that were becoming increasingly discreditable. Through the adoption of a system of official reporting, a start was made towards ensuring that the deliberations of Parliament would be better and more widely understood and its legislative function made more accountable. Alexander Mackenzie never exhibited the mastery of Parliament achieved by his rival John A. Macdonald, but in his leadership of the House in 1874 he acted with an honest respect for the institution that was to be an important example for the country in the years to come.

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April 2011

THE MINISTRY

THIRD PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION – MARCH 26, 1874 TO MAY 26, 1874

Prime Minister, Minister of Public Works	Hon. Alexander Mackenzie
Minister of Justice and Attorney General	Hon. Antoine-Aimé Dorion
Minister of Militia and Defence	Hon. William Ross
Minister of Customs	Hon. Isaac Burpee
Minister of Finance	Hon. Richard John Cartwright
Minister of Inland Revenue	Hon. Télesphore Fournier
Minister of the Interior	Hon. David Laird
President of the Privy Council	Hon. Lucius Seth Huntington
Postmaster General	Hon. Donald Alexander Macdonald
Minister of Agriculture	Hon. Luc Letellier de St-Just
Secretary of State of Canada	Hon. Richard William Scott
Receiver General	Hon. Thomas Coffin
Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs	Hon. David Laird
Minister of Marine and Fisheries	Hon. Albert James Smith

NAMES OF MEMBERS
IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER AND CONSTITUENCIES

Name of Member	Constituency
Abbott, Hon. John Joseph Caldwell	Argenteuil, Quebec
Anglin, Hon. Timothy Warren	Gloucester, New Brunswick
Appleby, Stephen Burpee	Carleton, New Brunswick
Archibald, Cyril	Stormont, Ontario
Aylmer, Hon. Henry	Richmond—Wolfe, Quebec
Baby, Louis François Georges	Joliette, Quebec
Bain, Thomas	Wentworth North, Ontario
Barthe, Georges Isidore	Richelieu, Quebec
Béchard, François	Iberville, Quebec
Bernier, Henri	Lotbinière, Quebec
Bertram, John	Peterborough West, Ontario
Biggar, James Lyons	Northumberland East, Ontario
Blackburn, Robert	Russell, Ontario
Blain, David	York West, Ontario
Blake, Hon. Edward	Bruce South, Ontario
Bodwell, Ebenezer Vining	Oxford South, Ontario
Borden, Frederick William	Kings, Nova Scotia
Borron, Edward Barnes	Algoma, Ontario
Bourassa, François	Saint-Jean, Quebec
Bowell, Mackenzie	Hastings North, Ontario
Bowman, Isaac Erb	Waterloo North, Ontario
Boyer, Louis Alphonse	Maskinongé, Quebec
Brooks, Edward Towle	Sherbrooke (Ville), Quebec
Brouse, William Henry	Grenville South, Ontario
Brown, James	Hastings West, Ontario
Buell, Jacob Dockstader	Brockville, Ontario
Bunster, Arthur	Vancouver, British Columbia
[1]Burk, Harvey William	Durham West, Ontario
Burpee, Charles	Sunbury, New Brunswick
Burpee, Hon. Isaac	St. John (City & County), New Brunswick
Cameron, Hon. John Hillyard	Cardwell, Ontario
Cameron, Malcolm	Ontario South, Ontario
Cameron, Malcolm Colin	Huron South, Ontario
Carmichael, James William	Pictou, Nova Scotia
Caron, Joseph Philippe René Adolphe	Québec (Comté), Quebec

[1] Elected in by-election, April 7, 1874.

Name of Member	Constituency
Cartwright, Hon. Richard John	Lennox, Ontario
Casey, George Elliott	Elgin West, Ontario
Casgrain, Philippe Baby	L'Islet, Quebec
Cauchon, Hon. Joseph Édouard	Quebec Centre, Quebec
Charlton, John	Norfolk North, Ontario
Chauveau, Hon. Pierre-Joseph-Olivier	Quebec (Comté), Quebec
Cheval, Guillaume dit St-Jacques	Rouville, Quebec
Chisholm, Daniel Black	Halton, Ontario
Church, Charles Edward	Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
Cimon, Marie Honorius Ernest	Chicoutimi–Saguenay, Quebec
Cockburn, Alexander Peter	Muskoka, Ontario
Coffin, Hon. Thomas	Shelburne, Nova Scotia
Colby, Charles Carroll	Stanstead, Quebec
Cook, Herman Henry	Simcoe North, Ontario
Costigan, John	Victoria, New Brunswick
Cunningham, James	New Westminster, British Columbia
Cunningham, Robert	Marquette, Manitoba
Currier, Joseph Merrill	Ottawa (City), Ontario
Davies, Daniel	King's County, P.E.I.
Dawson, John A.	Pictou, Nova Scotia
De Cosmos, Amor	Victoria, British Columbia
Delorme, Louis	Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec
De St-Georges, Joseph Esdras Alfred	Portneuf, Quebec
Desjardins, Alphonse	Hochelaga, Quebec
De Veber, Jeremiah Smith Boies	St. John (City), New Brunswick
Dewdney, Edgar	Yale, British Columbia
Domville, James	King's, New Brunswick
Donahue, William	Missisquoi, Quebec
Dorion, Hon. Antoine Aime	Napierville, Quebec
Dugas, Firmin	Montcalm, Quebec
Dymond, Alfred Hutchinson	York North, Ontario
Farrow, Thomas	Huron North, Ontario
Ferguson, Charles Frederick	Leeds North and Grenville North, Ontario
Ferris, John	Queen's, New Brunswick
Fiset, Jean-Baptiste Romuald	Rimouski, Quebec
Fleming, Gavin	Brant North, Ontario
Flesher, William Kingston	Grey East, Ontario
Flynn, Edmund Power	Richmond, Nova Scotia
Forbes, James Fraser	Queens, Nova Scotia

Name of Member	Constituency
Fournier, Hon. Télesphore	Bellechasse, Quebec
Fréchette, Louis Honoré	Lévis, Quebec
Galbraith, Daniel	Lanark North, Ontario
Gaudet, Joseph	Nicolet, Quebec
Geoffrion, Félix	Verchères, Quebec
Gibson, William	Dundas, Ontario
Gill, Charles	Yamaska, Quebec
Gillies, John	Bruce North, Ontario
Gillmor, Arthur Hill	Charlotte, New Brunswick
Gordon, Adam	Ontario North, Ontario
Goudge, Monson Henry	Hants, Nova Scotia
Hagar, Albert	Prescott, Ontario
Haggart, John Graham	Lanark South, Ontario
Hall, James	Peterborough East, Ontario
Harper, Louis Georges	Gaspé, Quebec
Harvey, William	Elgin East, Ontario
Harwood, Robert William	Vaudreuil, Quebec
Higinbotham, Nathaniel	Wellington North, Ontario
Holton, Hon. Luther Hamilton	Châteauguay, Quebec
Horton, Horace	Huron Centre, Ontario
Huntington, Hon. Lucius Seth	Shefford, Quebec
Hurteau, Hilaire	L'Assomption, Quebec
Irving, Aemilius	Hamilton, Ontario
Jetté, Louis Amable	Montréal-Est, Quebec
Jodoin, Amable	Chambly, Quebec
Jones, Alfred Gilpin	Halifax, Nova Scotia
Jones, David Ford	Leeds South, Ontario
Kerr, William	Northumberland West, Ontario
Killam, Frank	Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
Kirk, John Angus	Guysborough, Nova Scotia
Kirkpatrick, George Airey	Frontenac, Ontario
Laflamme, Toussaint Antoine Rodolphe	Jacques-Cartier, Quebec
Laird, Hon. David	Queen's County, P.E.I.
Lajoie, Charles Gérin	Saint-Maurice, Quebec
Landerkin, George	Grey South, Ontario
Langlois, Jean	Montmorency, Quebec
Lantier, Jacques Philippe	Soulanges, Quebec
Laurier, Wilfrid	Drummond–Arthabaska, Quebec

Name of Member	Constituency
Little, William Carruthers	Simcoe South, Ontario
McCallum, Lachlin	Monck, Ontario
Macdonald, Alexander Francis	Cornwall, Ontario
Macdonald, Hon. Donald Alexander	Glengarry, Ontario
Macdonald, Right Hon. Sir John Alexander	Kingston, Ontario
McDonald, William	Cape Breton, Nova Scotia
McDonnell, Samuel	Inverness, Nova Scotia
McDougall, John Lorn	Renfrew South, Ontario
McDougall, William	Trois-Rivières, Quebec
McGreevy, Hon. Thomas	Québec Ouest, Quebec
McGregor, William	Essex, Ontario
McIntyre, Peter Adolphus	King's County, P.E.I.
McIsaac, Angus	Antigonish, Nova Scotia
Mackay, Newton LeGayet	Cape Breton, Ontario
McKay, Thomas	Colchester, Nova Scotia
Mackenzie, Hon. Alexander	Lambton, Ontario
Mackenzie, Frederick	Montréal-Ouest, Quebec
MacLennan, James	Victoria North, Ontario
McLeod, George	Kent, New Brunswick
McQuade, Arthur	Victoria South, Ontario
Masson, Louis-François-Rodrigue	Terrebonne, Quebec
Metcalfe, James	York East, Ontario
Mills, David	Bothwell, Ontario
Mitchell, Hon. Peter	Northumberland, New Brunswick
Moffatt, George	Restigouche, New Brunswick
Monteith, Andrew	Perth North, Ontario
Montplaisir, Hippolyte	Champlain, Quebec
Moss, Thomas	West Toronto, Ontario
Mousseau, Joseph Alfred	Bagot, Quebec
Norris, James	Lincoln, Ontario
Oakes, Edwin Randolph	Digby, Nova Scotia
O'Donohoe, John	Toronto East, Ontario
Oliver, Thomas	Oxford North, Ontario
Orton, George Turner	Wellington Centre, Ontario
Ouimet, Joseph-Aldéric	Laval, Quebec
Palmer, Acalus Lockwood	St. John (City & County), New Brunswick
Pâquet, Anselme-Homère	Berthier, Quebec
Paterson, William	Brant South, Ontario
Pelletier, Charles-Alphonse-Pantaléon	Kamouraska, Quebec

Name of Member	Constituency
Perry, Stanislaus Francis	Prince County, P.E.I.
Pettes, Nathaniel	Brome, Quebec
Pickard, John	York, New Brunswick
Pinsonneault, Alfred	Laprairie, Quebec
Plumb, Josiah Burr	Niagara, Ontario
Pope, Hon. John Henry	Compton, Quebec
Pouliot, Jean-Baptiste	Témiscouata, Quebec
Power, Patrick	Halifax, Nova Scotia
Pozer, Christian Henry	Beauce, Quebec
Prévost, Wilfred	Deux-Montagnes, Quebec
Ray, William Hallett	Annapolis, Nova Scotia
Richard, Édouard Émery	Mégantic, Quebec
Riel, Louis	Provencher, Manitoba
Robillard, Ulysse Janvier	Beauharnois, Quebec
Robitaille, Hon. Théodore	Bonaventure, Quebec
Rochester, John	Carleton, Ontario
Roscoe, Francis James	Victoria, British Columbia
Ross, George William	Middlesex West, Ontario
Ross, Lewis	Durham East, Ontario
Ross, Walter	Prince Edward, Ontario
Ross, Hon. William	Victoria, Nova Scotia
Rouleau, François Fortunat	Dorchester, Quebec
Ryan, Michael Patrick	Montréal Centre, Quebec
Rymal, Joseph	Wentworth South, Ontario
St-Jean, Pierre	Ottawa (City), Ontario
Scatcherd, Thomas	Middlesex North, Ontario
Schultz, John Christian	Lisgar, Manitoba
Scriver, Julius	Huntingdon, Quebec
Shibley, Schuyler	Addington, Ontario
Sinclair, Peter	Queen's County, P.E.I.
[2]Skinner, James Atchison	Oxford South, Ontario
Smith, Hon. Albert James	Westmorland, New Brunswick
Smith, Donald Alexander	Selkirk, Manitoba
Smith, Robert	Peel, Ontario
Snider, George	Grey North, Ontario
Stephenson, Rufus	Kent, Ontario
Stirton, David	Wellington South, Ontario
Stuart, John	Norfolk South, Ontario
Taschereau, Henri Thomas	Montmagny, Quebec

[2] Elected in by-election, May 23, 1874.

Name of Member	Constituency
Thibaudeau, Isidore	Québec Est, Quebec
Thompson, David	Haldimand, Ontario
Thompson, Joshua Spencer	Cariboo, British Columbia
Thomson, William Alexander	Welland, Ontario
Tremblay, Pierre-Alexis	Charlevoix, Quebec
Trow, James	Perth South, Ontario
Tupper, Hon. Charles, C.B.	Cumberland, Nova Scotia
Walker, John	London, Ontario
Wallace, John	Albert, New Brunswick
White, John	Hastings East, Ontario
White, Peter	Renfrew North, Ontario
Wilkes, Robert	Toronto Centre, Ontario
Willson, Crowell	Middlesex East, Ontario
Wood, Andrew Trew	Hamilton, Ontario
Wood, Hon. Edmund Burke	Durham West, Ontario
Wright, Alonzo	Ottawa (Comté), Quebec
Wright, William McKay	Pontiac, Quebec
Yeo, James	Prince County, P.E.I.
Young, James	Waterloo South, Ontario

CONSTITUENCIES BY PROVINCE WITH NAME OF MEMBERS ELECTED

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

Lisgar	John Christian Schultz
Marquette	Robert Cunningham
Provencher	Louis Riel
Selkirk	Donald Alexander Smith

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Cariboo	Joshua Spencer Thompson
New Westminster	James Cunningham
Vancouver	Arthur Bunster
Victoria	Francis James Roscoe
Victoria	Amor De Cosmos
Yale	Edgar Dewdney

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Albert	John Wallace
Carleton	Stephen Burpee Appleby
Charlotte	Arthur Hill Gillmor
Gloucester	Hon. Timothy Warren Anglin
Kent	George McLeod
King's	James Domville
Northumberland	Hon. Peter Mitchell
Queen's	John Ferris
Restigouche	George Moffatt
St. John City	Jeremiah Smith Boies De Veber
St. John (City & County)	Hon. Isaac Burpee
St. John (City & County)	Acalus Lockwood Palmer
Sunbury	Charles Burpee
Victoria	Hon. John Costigan
Westmorland	Hon. Albert James Smith
York	John Pickard

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

Annapolis	William Hallet Ray
Antigonish	Angus McIsaac
Cape Breton	Newton LeGayet Mackay

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA (cont'd)

Cape Breton	William McDonald
Colchester	Thomas McKay
Cumberland	Hon. Charles Tupper
Digby	Edwin Randolph Oakes
Guysborough	John Angus Kirk
Halifax	Patrick Power
Halifax	Alfred Gilpin Jones
Hants	Monson Henry Goudge
Inverness	Samuel McDonnell
Kings	Frederick William Borden
Lunenburg	Charles Edward Church
Pictou	James William Carmichael
Pictou	John A. Dawson
Queens	James Fraser Forbes
Richmond	Edmund Power Flynn
Shelburne	Hon. Thomas Coffin
Victoria	Hon. William Ross
Yarmouth	Frank Killam

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

King's County	Daniel Davies
King's County	Peter Adolphus McIntyre
Prince County	Stanislaus Francis Perry
Prince County	James Yeo
Queen's County	Hon. David Laird
Queen's County	Peter Sinclair

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Addington	Schuyler Shibley
Algoma	Edward Barnes Borron
Bothwell	David Mills
Brant North	Gavin Fleming
Brant South	William Paterson
Brockville	Jacob Dockstader Buell
Bruce North	John Gillies
Bruce South	Hon. Edward Blake
Cardwell	Hon. John Hillyard Cameron
Carleton	John Rochester
Cornwall	Alexander Francis Macdonald
Dundas	William Gibson

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO (cont'd)

Durham East	Lewis Ross
Durham West	Hon. Edmund Burke Wood
Durham West	[1]Harvey William Burk
Elgin East	William Harvey
Elgin West	George Elliot Casey
Essex	William McGregor
Frontenac	George Airey Kirkpatrick
Glengarry	Hon. Donald Alexander Macdonald
Grenville South	William Henry Brouse
Grey East	William Kingston Flesher
Grey North	George Snider
Grey South	George Landerkin
Haldimand	David Thompson
Halton	Daniel Black Chisholm
Hamilton	Aemilius Irving
Hamilton	Andrew Trew Wood
Hastings East	John White
Hastings North	Mackenzie Bowell
Hastings West	James Brown
Huron Centre	Horace Horton
Huron North	Thomas Farrow
Huron South	Malcolm Colin Cameron
Kent	Rufus Stephenson
Kingston	Right Hon. Sir John Alexander Macdonald
Lambton	Hon. Alexander Mackenzie
Lanark North	Daniel Galbraith
Lanark South	John Graham Haggart
Leeds North and Grenville North	Charles Frederick Ferguson
Leeds South	David Ford Jones
Lennox	Hon. Richard John Cartwright
Lincoln	James Norris
London	John Walker
Middlesex East	Crowell Willson
Middlesex North	Thomas Scatcherd
Middlesex West	George William Ross
Monck	Lachlan McCallum
Muskoka	Alexander Peter Cockburn
Niagara	Josiah Burr Plumb
Norfolk North	John Charlton
Norfolk South	John Stuart
Northumberland East	James Lyons Biggar
Northumberland West	William Kerr
Ontario North	Adam Gordon

[1] Elected in by-election, April 7, 1874

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO (cont'd)

Ontario South	Malcolm Cameron
Ottawa (City)	Joseph Merrill Currier
Ottawa (City)	Pierre St-Jean
Oxford North	Thomas Oliver
Oxford South	Ebenezer Vining Bodwell
Oxford South	[2]James Atchison Skinner
Peel	Robert Smith
Perth North	Andrew Monteith
Perth South	Thomas Trow
Peterborough East	James Hall
Peterborough West	John Bertram
Prescott	Albert Hagar
Prince Edward	Walter Ross
Renfrew North	Peter White
Renfrew South	John Lorn McDougall
Russell	Robert Blackburn
Simcoe North	Herman Henry Cook
Simcoe South	William Carruthers Little
Stormont	Cyril Archibald
Toronto Centre	Robert Wilkes
Toronto East	John O'Donohoe
Victoria North	James MacLennan
Victoria South	Arthur McQuade
Waterloo North	Isaac Erb Bowman
Waterloo South	James Young
Welland	William Alexander Thomson
Wellington Centre	George Turner Orton
Wellington North	Nathaniel Higinbotham
Wellington South	David Stirton
Wentworth North	Thomas Bain
Wentworth South	Joseph Rymal
West Toronto	Thomas Moss
York East	James Metcalfe
York North	Alfred Hutchinson Dymond
York West	David Blain

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

Argenteuil	Hon. John Joseph Caldwell Abbott
Bagot	Joseph Alfred Mousseau
Beauce	Christian Henry Pozer

[2] Elected in by-election, May 23, 1874

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC (cont'd)

Beauharnois	Ulysse Janvier Robillard
Bellechasse	Hon. Télesphore Fournier
Berthier	Anselme-Homère Pâquet
Bonaventure	Hon. Théodore Robitaille
Brome	Nathaniel Pettes
Chambly	Amable Jodin
Champlain	Hippolyte Montplaisir
Charlevoix	Pierre-Alexis Tremblay
Châteauguay	Hon. Luther Hamilton Holton
Chicoutimi—Saguenay	Marie Honorius Cimon
Compton	Hon. John Henry Pope
Deux-Montagnes	Wilfred Prévost
Dorchester	François Fortunat Rouleau
Drummond—Arthabaska	Wilfrid Laurier
Gaspé	Louis George Harper
Hochelaga	Alphonse Desjardins
Huntingdon	Julius Scriver
Iberville	François Béchard
Jacques-Cartier	Toussaint Antoine Rodolphe Laflamme
Joliette	Hon. Louis François Georges Baby
Kamouraska	Charles-Alphonse-Pantaléon Pelletier
Laprairie	Alfred Pinsonneault
L'Assomption	Hilaire Hurteau
Laval	Joseph-Aldéric Ouimet
Lévis	Louis Honoré Fréchette
L'Islet	Philippe Baby Casgrain
Lotbinière	Henri Bernier
Maskinongé	Louis Alphonse Boyer
Mégantic	Édouard Émery Richard
Missisquoi	William Donahue
Montcalm	Firmin Dugas
Montmagny	Henri Thomas Taschereau
Montmorency	Jean Langlois
Montreal Centre	Michael Patrick Ryan
Montreal Est	Louis Amable Jetté
Montreal Ouest	Frederick Mackenzie
Napierville	Hon. Antoine-Aimé Dorion
Nicolet	Joseph Gaudet
Ottawa (Comté)	Alonzo Wright
Pontiac	William McKay Wright
Portneuf	Joseph Esdras Alfred De St-Georges
Quebec Centre	Hon. Joseph Édouard Cauchon
Quebec Est	Isidore Thibaudeau
Quebec Ouest	Hon. Thomas McGreevy

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC (cont'd)

Quebec (Comté)	Joseph Philippe René Adolphe Caron
Quebec (Comté)	Hon. Pierre-Joseph-Olivier Chauveau
Richelieu	Georges Isidore Barthe
Richmond—Wolfe	Hon. Henry Aylmer
Rimouski	Jean-Baptiste Romuald Fiset
Rouville	Guillaume Cheval dit St-Jacques
Saint-Hyacinthe	Louis Delorme
Saint-Jean	François Bourassa
Saint-Maurice	Charles Gérin Lajoie
Shefford	Hon. Lucius Seth Huntington
Sherbrooke (Ville)	Edward Towle Brooks
Soulanges	Jacques Philippe Lantier
Stanstead	Charles Carroll Colby
Témiscouata	Jean-Baptiste Pouliot
Terrebonne	Louis-François-Rodrigue Masson
Trois-Rivières	William McDougall
Vaudreuil	Robert William Harwood
Verchères	Félix Geoffrion
Yamaska	Charles Gill

Readers Note

This is the eighth volume in a series begun in the 1960s to reconstitute the early debates of the House of Commons. The editorial approach followed here is set out in P.B. Waite's Introduction to the first volume (which presents the debates of 1867-1868).

These debates are a reconstruction from newspaper accounts and are in no way considered official records of the House of Commons. Numbers and figures misquoted in original newspaper reports have been corrected where required. The exact names of bills, votes, etc., sourced from the Journals of the House, occasionally replace the more dubious titles found in unofficial records of the day. Professional designations have been suppressed in favour of the official names of individuals. These were exhaustively researched using parliamentary guides, the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, and the Library of Parliament's own PARLINFO database, where readers may consult the political biographies of Canada's early parliamentarians. The names of electoral districts have been verified and made consistent, but readers should note that other place names, which may have changed since the 1800s, have been left "as reported" here.

There has been no attempt to clean up awkward or incomplete sentences. The reader must adopt the mindset of a reporter in the late 1800s, writing furiously in a noisy, bustling environment. Likewise, the language of debate is rooted in the times, with the appearance of archaic words and turns of phrase and liberal references to the classics of the day. Those with a keen eye will note some creative spelling and variations in the capitalization of parliamentary terms, a lack of consistency that honours the flavour of the times.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, March 26, 1874

The first session of the Third Parliament of the Dominion was opened today by Lord Dufferin. The weather was of a particularly unfavourable character, and the fickleness of the elements was successful in detracting from the ceremony a certain amount of the success which it would undoubtedly have enjoyed. A wet snow fell from the dawn of day up to three o'clock in the afternoon, and during that period clouds of an ominous character hovered immediately above the city.

At an early hour national flags were hoisted on conspicuous places, and by three o'clock a large crowd had assembled on the hill to see His Excellency as he passed.

Outside the Parliament Buildings a guard of honour of the Garrison Artillery, consisting of one hundred rank and file, was stationed, under the command of Major Eagleton, Capt. Graham, Capt. Patrick, and Lieut. Evans.

A little after two o'clock Sir John A. Macdonald passed through the already large crowd before the buildings, and entered the House by the members' private entrance.

His Excellency, on leaving Rideau Hall, proceeded direct to the Houses of Parliament, accompanied by his staff, viz., Col. Fletcher, Military Secretary; Lieutenant Hamilton, A.D.C.; and Lieutenant Ward, R.N., A.D.C., and escorted by the Ottawa Cavalry Troop, commended by Captain Sparks. The band of the Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery was also in attendance. The thoroughfares from Rideau Hall to the House were crowded with spectators.

Shortly after three o'clock the Governor General drove up to the main entrance of the building, when the guard of honour presented arms. The way to the Senate Chamber was kept clear by a detachment of the Garrison Artillery, the men lining the way in the direction of the Chamber, and a body of the Dominion police, under the command of Supt. O'Neill.

His Excellency at once proceeded to the Senate, the galleries of which were comfortably filled. Upon His Excellency taking his seat upon the throne, a salute of nineteen guns was fired by the Ottawa Field Battery in close proximity to the building.

The officers composing the staff were Colonels Aumond, Wiley, Macpherson, Powell, J. Ross, Jackson, Majors White, Wickstead, Perry, Matice, B.M.; Adjt. Walsh; and Lieuts. Harris, Patrick and O'Meara. Judge Galt and Sheriff Powell took up a position on the left of His Excellency, and the Premier was stationed on the right.

The newly elected House of Commons met today for the despatch of business, in compliance with His Excellency's proclamation.

Nearly all the Ministers were in their seats, including the following: Messrs. Dorion, Cartwright, Burpee (St. John – City & County), Coffin, Laird, Smith, Huntington, Fournier, Ross and Macdonald (Glengarry). Among the members present were Sir John A. Macdonald, Messrs. Holton, Cameron (Ontario South), Anglin, Tupper, Cameron (Cardwell), Mitchell, Robitaille, Cauchon, Young, Colby, Brooks, Jetté, Oliver, Pickard, Mills, Forbes, Geoffrion, Brouse, De Cosmos, Cameron (Huron South), Wood (Hamilton), Stirton, Ross (Prince Edward), Walker, Smith (Selkirk), Dymond, Ferris, Ross (Durham East), Snider, Smith (Peel), Ross (Middlesex West), Bowman, Lantier, McGregor, Killam, Tremblay, Thomson (Welland), O'Donohoe, McDonnell (Inverness), Irving, Laflamme, Fréchette, Metcalfe, Laurier, Casey, Ray, Thompson (Haldimand), Casgrain, Landerkin, Blain, Cockburn, Paterson, Fleming, McDonald, Galbraith, Bowell, Stephenson, Rochester, Mousseau, Masson, Ouimet, Caron, Wright (Ottawa County), Wright (Pontiac), Norris, Palmer, Kirkpatrick, Haggart, Brown, Baby, White, Rochester, Donahue, Cheval, Gill, Harwood, Prévost, Barthe, Aylmer, Robillard, Robitaille, De St-Georges, Boyer, Harvey, Rymal, MacKenzie (Montreal West), Yeo, Davies, Sinclair, Pinsonneault and Jodoin.

Among the members present, in addition to those already mentioned, are Messrs. Gibson, Macdonald (Cornwall), Wilkes, Abbott, Flesher, Schultz, Currier, McDougall (Trois-Rivières), Ryan, Brouse, Scriver, Gillies, Béchard, Pâquet, St-Jean, Wallace, Kerr, Higinbotham, McQuade, Horton, Charlton, Orton and Burpee (Sunbury).

At three o'clock the Clerk, Mr. Alfred Patrick, took the chair at the table. At 3.10 the usual three knocks were heard at the door, the Sergeant-at-Arms answered the summons and returning said: "Mr. Clerk—A Message from His Excellency the Governor General."

Mr. Clerk directed the admission of the Messenger, upon which Mr. René Kimber, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, entered, and after bowing to both sides of the House, said: "Gentlemen—the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the Senate." The Usher of the Black Rod then withdrew, and all the members of the House followed Mr. Clerk into the Senate Chamber. Here His Excellency was found seated on the Throne, surrounded by a large number of staff officers. Several senators and a few ladies occupied seats on the floor. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie stood on the left of the Throne; Col. Fletcher, Scots Fusilier Guards, Military Secretary to His Excellency, stood on the right; and the Hon. Senator Christie, Speaker of the Senate, occupied a chair at the foot of the Throne.

On the arrival of the Commons the Speaker said: "Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, His Excellency the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present Parliament until a Speaker for the House of Commons shall have been chosen according to law; but tomorrow, at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon, His Excellency will declare the causes of his summoning the present Parliament."

The statement was repeated in French, after which the Commons retired to their Chamber.

His Excellency shortly afterwards left the Senate Chamber and the building, the guard of honour presenting arms. As he drove away another salute was fired, and the band struck up the National Anthem.

* * *

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

In the House of Commons the ladies' gallery was well filled. The remaining galleries were comparatively empty.

On the members re-assembling in the Chamber, Mr. Alfred Patrick, the Clerk, said the first duty was the election of a Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Mr. Patrick, Sir, it is my duty today, in order to provide for the organization of the House, to propose to the House the name of a gentleman as its presiding officer, and I have no doubt that the gentleman whom I intend to propose is one who will command the confidence of this House, one in whose strict impartiality the House will safely confide, and whose long Parliamentary experience justifies the House in confiding to him its presidency. I need not, Sir, enlarge upon the qualifications of the gentleman whom I intend to propose, as he is known to almost all the members of this House, and I have no doubt that the experience of the House with that gentleman in the chair will justify the selection that will be made today. I have, therefore, the honour, without saying any more, to propose the Hon. Timothy Warren Anglin, the member for Gloucester, as Speaker for this Honourable House.

Hon. Mr. DORION (in French) said he considered it due to the Maritime Provinces to elect a member from that portion of the Dominion to preside over the deliberation of the House of Commons. The gentleman who had been named had had a long experience in parliamentary affairs, was a man of high character and dignified bearing, and would fill the position to which he had been nominated with honour to himself and advantage to the House. He had always conducted himself with propriety and decorum in the proceedings of the Legislature, and he felt sure that he would, in his new position, maintain that good order which was necessary and proper in the conduct of the affairs which engaged the attention of Parliament. He had great pleasure in seconding the nomination. (*Cheers.*)

The CLERK put the motion and declared it carried. The Speaker-elect was led from his seat, in the front row of the government benches, to the chair, by Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie and Dorion, amid loud cheers.

The SPEAKER, standing on the second step, then addressed the House in the following terms: I most sincerely thank the House for the high honour they have done me in electing me unanimously their Speaker. I shall endeavour, while I occupy the chair, to prove myself worthy of the honour by conducting myself with the strictest impartiality and the strictest regard for the rules and practice of this House of Parliament, and by the most zealous discharge of the duties which I have now undertaken. (*Cheers.*) I am satisfied that whenever questions of doubt or difficulty shall arise, as they may arise in the course of time, I can look with perfect confidence to the men of large Parliamentary experience on both sides of the House for their counsel and assistance in my determination of these questions, and I am satisfied also that I may rely upon the aid of all members on both sides of this House to assist me in maintaining the dignity and decorum which befit the House of Commons of Canada.

The SPEAKER then took the chair and the mace was laid on the table.

Prayers

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had paused a moment in the expectation that some congratulations would have been offered to Mr. Speaker from the other side of the House, to which it had been his desire to add his own congratulations. He could only say that he now offered Mr. Speaker his congratulations upon his elevation to the high position which he now held. He must confess that he did not anticipate until very recently that this hon. friend Mr. Anglin's name would have been submitted for the chair of the Speaker. He had thought that his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) would have been named for that high position and on behalf of that side of the House he must say that they felt that if his name had been proposed it would have been acceptable. From his long Parliamentary experience, from the careful study which he had made of Parliamentary rules and practices, there could be no doubt that he would have made a Speaker second to none who had presided in the Dominion or Provincial Parliaments.

He was not aware that the present Speaker, although he had a great deal of parliamentary experience, had paid so much attention to the rules of Parliament as that hon. gentleman. He knew, however, that he had long Parliamentary experience, and he had no reason at all to doubt that he had paid attention to the rules of Parliament, and he had every reason to believe that his tenure of office would be marked as a distinguished one. He was quite certain that the industry which was one of his striking characteristics would make him master, if he was not already master, of the rules of Parliament, and he was quite satisfied also, from the logical turn of his mind and the marked intellectual ability which distinguished him, he would satisfactorily and ably apply these rules to the proceedings of Parliament. He concluded by again congratulating him on his election to the chair. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he had not intended to address the House on this occasion, but the very pointed, and he might say gratifying, reference which the right hon. gentleman who led the other side of the House had made to him would render it proper that he should say very few words in reference to what he had been pleased to say, and further, make some addition to the congratulations which had been offered to the Speaker.

It was exceedingly gratifying. It was one of the gratifying events which mitigated the disagreements of public life, that after having

been opposed—steadfastly opposed—to the right hon. gentleman's Administration during the whole course of its existence, the personal and official relations that had existed between them as members of this House had been of that agreeable character which had led to the gratifying observations they had just heard.

He might say that highly as he valued the dignity to which this House had just elevated the Speaker, he had never contemplated the occupation of this position himself. It had never, he had reason to believe, been considered in the counsel of the political party to which he belonged; and whether or not, if it had been so considered, and the position had been tendered to him, he would have accepted, it, it would be futile for him now to say.

He joined with his hon. friend who had moved and seconded the Speaker's nomination, and with the right hon. gentleman in congratulating the Speaker upon his appointment as Speaker of this House. He had no doubt that they would all have reason to be satisfied with the unanimous choice which they had made. Having had the advantage of sitting by the Speaker's side during seven sessions of the Parliament of Canada, having been a close observer of his devotion to the public service, and having had abundant opportunities of appreciating the great ability which he had brought to bear upon the discharge of his duties, he had no reason to doubt that his new duties would be discharged with the fidelity which had characterized his conduct in every position to which he had been called. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that had the nomination of Mr. Speaker been made by some independent private members of the House, he would have had the greatest possible pleasure of offering him the congratulations which the right hon. gentleman had referred to as something missing on that side of the House; but having proposed him himself the proposition was clearly a compliment in itself as far as he was personally concerned. Were it otherwise he was quite sure that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to join in the congratulations which he was glad to say the Speaker had received from both sides of the House. (*Cheers.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD enquired if it would be convenient for the hon. gentleman to state if the Address would be taken up tomorrow evening.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not prepared to say, on account of some matters, which, as the right hon. gentleman knew, had to be attended to tomorrow evening. It might not be convenient or it might be.

The House then adjourned at 3.30 p.m.

The formal opening will take place tomorrow, when the Speech from the Throne will be delivered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, March 27, 1874

The weather today has been clear and cold, accompanied by a sharp, searching wind. The sun shone brightly during the greater part of the day, but little warmth was derived from its rays, which threw upon the newly fallen snow myriads of dazzling scintillations.

At noon the temperature of the atmosphere had become slightly reduced, and an almost imperceptible thaw was the result. At this hour the city presented a bustling and crowded appearance, and a number of individuals had already stationed themselves in the corridor leading to the galleries of the Senate Chamber. The stream of persons proceeding to the building as the hour wore on assumed large proportions, and before the galleries of the Senate were opened to the public the corridors without were literally packed with anxious ladies and children, who had been patiently waiting for upwards of an hour for the first choice of the most commanding seats. As soon as the doors were opened a rush was made for the front seats, all of which were immediately taken possession of. Long before two o'clock there was scarcely a seat to be obtained in the galleries of the Senate.

A large crowd assembled on Parliament Square, and every point which would command a good view of His Excellency's arrival was crowded with spectators of both sexes. At 2.40 p.m. the guard of honour, which consisted of 100 rank and file of the Governor General's Foot Guards, arrived under the command of Capt. Horace Lee, Lieut. Todd and Ensign Hamond. The Ottawa Field Battery was stationed on the ground west of the Parliament Buildings, and when His Excellency drove up, a little after three o'clock, they fired a salute, the reverberations of which were perceptibly experienced within the buildings.

* * *

THE SENATE

On either side of the Senate Chamber rows of seats were occupied by ladies in full dress, while in the centre of the floor the Senators and several distinguished strangers were accommodated with seats. The scene was one of the most gorgeous that has been witnessed for some years on the floor of the Chamber. No available space was left unoccupied. The rich attire of the ladies formed a marked contrast with the plain dress costumes of the gentlemen. The galleries were crowded to excess, the occupants, as before stated, being principally representatives of the fairer sex.

A few minutes before 3 o'clock Lady Dufferin entered by the door on the left of the throne. She wore a lavender satin dress, richly trimmed, and carried in her hand a magnificent bouquet of choice flowers.

Prominent amongst the ladies on the floor of the Chamber were Mrs. Anglin, Mrs. Shaw (Toronto), Mrs. O. Ford, Mrs. J. Sinclair, Mrs. Casgrain, Mrs. Letellier, Mrs. E. Sherwood and daughter, Miss Kearns, Mrs. Anderson and daughter, Mrs. Dupense, Mrs. and Miss O'Connor, Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Trudeau, Miss Bell, Mrs. and Misses Dennis, Mrs. Drummond and daughters, Mrs. Carruthers and daughter, Mrs. Hughes, Miss Vidal, Miss Chisholm, Mrs. Hastings, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Wright, Miss Ferris, Miss Cameron, Mrs. Wickstead and the Misses Wickstead, Mrs. Slater, Miss Slater, Mrs. Deevly, Mrs. Noel, Miss Coultbee, Miss Odell, Mrs. Tilton, Mrs. MacFarland, Mrs. Ferguson, Miss Bell, Mrs. McLennan, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Irving, Mrs. and Miss Kingsford, Mrs. and Miss McNab, Miss Pigott, Mrs. Armstrong and daughter, Mrs. Featherstone, Mrs. and Miss Himsworth, Mrs. Kidd, Mrs. Palmer and daughter, Mrs. Teakles, Mrs. and Misses Russell, Mrs. Gallagher, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Buckingham, Mrs. Chapeau, Mrs. Cowper Cox, Mrs. Pennock, Mrs. Fox, Miss Philps, Mrs. and Miss Russel, Mrs. McPherson, Mrs. Tallal and friend, Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. Poetter and Miss Poetter, Mrs. Blain and niece, Mrs. Guan, Mrs. and the Misses Foran, Mrs. Hall, and Mrs. Walker.

The gentlemen on the floor of the House, other than the Senators, were Mayor Featherstone, Judge Armstrong, Judge Lyon, Col. Shar, Hon. J. O'Connor, Hon. Mr. Cameron, Mr. W.H. Walker, Mr. Bouchette, Mr. Smith, Mr. J.H. McTavish, M.P.P., Hon. Mr. Howard and the Rev. Mason Gallagher.

Shortly after three o'clock His Excellency **LORD DUFFERIN** entered the Chamber, attended by his staff and Hon. Messrs. Letellier and Huntington. Having taken his seat upon the Throne, Hon. Mr. Speaker Christie commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that it was His Excellency's pleasure they should attend in the Senate Chamber immediately. The Usher of the Black Rod shortly after returned, followed by the Speaker and the Sergeant-at-Arms, bearing the Mace.

The SPEAKER, having taken up his position at the bar, said: The House of Commons have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me. May it please Your Excellency, if in performance of those duties I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me and not to the Commons, whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Excellency most favourable consideration.

Hon. Mr. CHRISTIE: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Commons to

Her Majesty's person and Government and, not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges. I am commanded also to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

His Excellency, **LORD DUFFERIN**, then read the following Speech from the Throne:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I have convoked Parliament at the earliest moment consistent with the delay entailed by the recent dissolution.

Your attention will be invited during the present session to measures having reference to the representation of the people in Parliament, embracing the system now prevailing in Great Britain and in most other countries enjoying Constitutional Government, of taking votes by ballot, and to the establishment of a General Court of Appeal. Measures will also be submitted to you for the amendment of the laws relating to controverted elections, the militia, and insolvency.

The enactment of 1872, respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway, having failed to secure the prosecution of that great enterprise, you will be called upon to consider what plan will best and most speedily provide the means of transcontinental communication with British Columbia. A report of the Chief Engineer will be laid before you, showing what progress was made during the past year in the surveys connected with the proposed line. The destruction of the railway offices by fire involved a serious loss of maps, plans and papers, the possession of which would have made the report more complete.

The canal and harbour improvements are being vigorously prosecuted, with a view to ensure adequate accommodation for the rapidly growing trade of the country. The Report of the Chief Engineer of the Department of Public Works, on the proposed canal between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy will be submitted for your consideration.

With the progress already made in the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, another year will be required to complete it. A report indicating its actual condition will be laid before Parliament, and a measure will be introduced to vest in the Department of Public Works the powers now exercised by the Board of Railway Commissioners.

The question of compensation due to the Dominion for the fishery privileges conceded to the United States by the Treaty of Washington, has given rise to a renewal of negotiations tending to widen reciprocal trade relations with that country. At the instance of my Government, the Imperial authorities have given directions to the British Minister to discuss the whole subject with the Administration at Washington, and have associated with him for this purpose a Canadian Commissioner.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The accounts of the last financial year will be laid before you, as well as a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the present year, at the earliest practicable period. I regret to state that the receipts of the current year will not be sufficient to meet the expenditures. It will therefore be necessary for you to consider the best means to be adopted for making good the anticipated deficiency. The estimates for the ensuing year will be laid before you. They have been prepared with as much regard to economy as is consistent with the efficiency of the public service.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

The combined efforts of the Dominion and Provincial Governments to promote immigration have met with a reasonable measure of success, thus adding a considerable number of desirable persons from other countries to our industrial population.

Notwithstanding the commercial depression which, through exceptional causes, prevailed to some extent during the past year, it is satisfactory to know that the general prosperity was not thereby seriously affected. I do not doubt but that, as the great natural resources of the Dominion become more widely appreciated, the results will be a healthy stimulus to the enterprise and energy of our people, and a still larger accession to our numbers.

I trust that your deliberations may be directed by wisdom and aided by Divine Providence.

After the Speech had been read in French, His Excellency retired, and the Commons returned to their Chamber. In the galleries of the Commons there were but few spectators.

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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m. In a few minutes the three knocks from Black Rod were heard at the outer door of the Commons. On that functionary being admitted, he stated that the Governor General desired the immediate attendance of that honourable House in the Senate Chamber. The Speaker, attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms, carrying the Mace, and the members, then left the Chamber.

The members return to the Chamber.

Prayers

On returning,

The SPEAKER reported that in the Senate he had, in their names and on their behalf, made the usual claim of privileges, which His Excellency had been pleased to accord them.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE then introduced the usual bill respecting the administration of oaths of office.

The SPEAKER informed the House that when the Commons attended His Excellency in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses, of which, to prevent mistakes, he had procured a copy.

The reading of the Speech was dispensed with.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the speech of His Excellency be taken into consideration on Monday next.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE next moved the following resolutions:

That the votes and proceedings of the House be printed, being first perused by The Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing, thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE also moved that select Standing Committees of this House for the present session be appointed for the following purposes, viz., (1) on privileges and elections; (2) on expiring laws; (3) on railways, canals and telegraph lines; (4) on miscellaneous private bills; (5) on standing orders; (6) on printing; (7) on public accounts; (8) on banking and commerce; (9) on immigration and colonization—which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon with power to send for persons, papers, and records.—Carried.

The remaining formal resolutions were carried.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the report of the Librarian of the House of Commons on the state of the Library of Parliament, and next called the attention of members to the reception to be given by Lady Dufferin in the Senate Chamber this evening.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 3.50 p.m.

His Excellency the Earl and the Countess of Dufferin held a drawing room in the Senate Chamber this evening when a very large number of ladies and gentlemen were presented. Lord and Lady Dufferin entered the building shortly after 9 o'clock, being received by a guard of honour from the Governor General's Foot Guards. The band of the Guards, stationed in the vestibule, played "God Save the Queen" as the Governor General entered.

Lord and Lady Dufferin took up a position on the throne, supported by the Ministers, aides-de-camp, and staff officers. Presentations then commenced, according to precedence. Senators were presented first, the members of the House of Commons next, then high officials, civilians and officers of the militia. The presentations occupied over half an hour, the band of the Guards performing selections in the meantime. Shortly before ten o'clock Lord and Lady Dufferin left the building, and soon afterwards the assemblage dispersed.

The scene was a most brilliant one: the magnificent chamber, illuminated by innumerable jets of gas, formed the setting of a picture in which the gay dresses of the ladies and the bright hues of military costumes, contrasted with the sober civilian black, mingled in pleasing variety.

An adjourned meeting of the Press Gallery was held this afternoon and was largely attended. Several rules were adopted for the governance of the Gallery, including one prohibiting the admission of Civil Service employees to the gallery after this session, and another declaring that the President should be elected for the whole term of a Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, March 30, 1874

[*Note: The opening of the 1874 session of Parliament was dominated by the uncertainty over the intentions of Louis Riel, elected in the Manitoba riding of Provencher in January.* The Globe, *in its issue of March 31, describes the excitement in Parliament the previous day as the Commons began the debate on the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne.*]

That Riel was lurking somewhere in the neighbourhood of Ottawa was generally understood during yesterday, and all sorts of rumours were in circulation as to his intention. However, at half-past twelve o'clock he presented himself at the Clerk's office, took the oath of allegiance, and signed the roll. The news soon spread and speculation was rife as to what would happen next. When the House met, many eyes were directed to the vacant seat in the northwest corner of the Chamber, where, on the back row of benches, to the seat occupied last session by Mr. Church was attached a label marked with the ominous name of Riel. But Riel did not appear, and it is confidently stated he has left Ottawa, or possibly is hiding away awaiting the changes of fortune somewhere not far off. His late opponent, Mr. Hamelin, as the Speaker informed the House, had written a letter claiming the seat, on the ground that Riel was disqualified, but the document had, of course, no effect under the new system of remitting all such questions to a judicial tribunal, and Riel, therefore, had in that respect nothing to gain by coming to Ottawa. He can pocket his mileage, however, even although he never enters the Chamber, and this on the round trip between Fort Garry and Ottawa is no trifle. That he can be allowed to sit in the House, with an indictment hanging over him for murder, is quite out of the question.

The opening speeches in the debate on the Address are the theme of general congratulatory remark. An old Parliamentarian, and one of the most notable members of the House, remarked that Mr. Moss' speech was the first of its kind that he had ever known to be a complete success. The speaker's tone was manly and independent, and he showed, moreover, that whilst a loyal supporter of the Administration, he was capable of bringing to bear upon the policy of the Government a thoroughly impartial and critical judgment. Mr. Moss' political friends cheered him heartily on rising, but he was applauded by both sides of the House when he concluded.

Mr. LAURIER, the seconder, spoke in French, a circumstance that deprived many members of the pleasure of fully understanding a speech that those who could enjoy it declared to be of the highest order. Mr. Laurier's appearance is youthful, but he is already well known as an eloquent public speaker, and he addressed the House with the quiet but earnest manner of a practised debater. He, like the mover of the Address, was warmly cheered by both Ministerialists and Opposition members when he sat down.

Before the rising of the House **Mr. BOWELL** moved a resolution which would bring up the whole question of Riel's position tomorrow.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

THE ELECTION FOR PROVENCHER

The SPEAKER stated that on Friday last he received a document relating to the Provencher election, which he felt at the time was not his duty to submit to the House. However, as the matter was one of importance, affecting the privileges of the House, more or less remotely, and as he had so recently been called to the chair he thought it right to state what was the nature of the document, and what were his reasons for not submitting it to the House.

A gentleman named Hamelin had stated that he was a candidate for the representation of Provencher at the last election, and he claimed that Mr. Riel, who had been returned as elected for that county, was disqualified. On account of that disqualification this gentleman claimed that he himself should be declared by this House the sitting member for Provencher. No petition regarding this matter had been presented, and perhaps on that account a technical objection might be raised against the document. It did not raise any question of privilege directly, or vindicate any privilege in any way. It simply made a claim to the seat which the Returning Officer declared to be the seat of Louis Riel.

As the law passed in the session of 1873 had taken the settlement of these matters out of the hands of the House and transferred it to the Judges of the different Provinces, and as this document was merely a personal claim, and, as he had said, this House had no right to interfere between these individuals, whatever the rights of the case might be, in vindication of its own privilege, he had thought it his duty to submit the document to the House, and to inform the House of his decision and the reason upon which it was based.

* * *

PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented:—

Mr. CHISHOLM—From Messrs. W.H. Storey and others, praying for further protection for Canadian manufacturers.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West)—From the citizens of Montreal, for an Act to incorporate a company to establish a line for

the conveyance of freight between the Western States and the interior of this continent and Europe, via Montreal, to be called the International Transportation Company.

Mr. HALL—From Mr. Boyd and others, for an Act to incorporate a company to open up a line of water communication by means of canals and water courses between the Georgian Bay and the Bay of Quinte.

Mr. IRVING—For an Act respecting the financial affairs of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, praying that an Act may pass relating to their financial affairs and empowering them to manage a system of superannuation and insurance beneficial to their employees.

Mr. ROSS (Durham East)—From Geo. Dartnell and others, for an Act to incorporate the London and Canada Bank.

Mr. PATERSON—From Messrs. Meyn, Woodgate and others for an Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in this Dominion.

* * *

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked if the leader of the Government had any statement to make with regard to any resignation or appointment that had been received or given. He had no doubt the House and the country would receive with great interest any explanations or communications the hon. gentleman might think it right to make.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no objection to making the statement the right hon. gentleman desired, but he thought the hon. gentleman himself always desired that this statement should be made after the important stage of the business, the Address, had been disposed of.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Very well, but my hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) always insisted most pertinaciously that I was wrong. I am glad to find I was correct at the time.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the right hon. gentleman during his term of office established a long line of precedents, some of which he thought were vicious, but which were now binding upon the House.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Vice cannot be binding. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he was surprised that the right hon. gentleman should be one of the first to call in question one of his own precedents—(*Hear, hear, and laughter*)—which, as he had said, he had maintained very pertinaciously against his (Hon. Mr. Holton's) pertinacious objections. (*Hear, hear.*)

* * *

THE ADDRESS

On the motion for the consideration of His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the session,

Mr. MOSS rose to move the Address in reply thereto, and was received with loud cheers. In opening, he said he was aware that special indulgence was always extended to the man who was charged with the duty of moving the resolutions before the House upon this occasion. He claimed that indulgence, not alone on account of his Parliamentary inexperience. He would endeavour also to establish another and a special claim upon the forbearance of the House, and that was that he would be as brief as possible.

Before referring to the subjects naturally suggested by the Speech from the Throne, he might be permitted to make an observation or two upon the circumstances under which the third Parliament of the Dominion of Canada was assembled. Its predecessor was unusually short lived. That was scarcely a fate which would have been predicted for it, even by those political soothsayers who pretended to discern the cloud when no bigger than a man's hand.

Elected at a time when, the question of Confederation having been settled and placed on a firm basis, parties might have been supposed to be well defined; elected, too, after a severe struggle at the polls, it might have been expected that it would continue to perform its functions to the end of its natural term of existence. The influences which gave its particular political complexion to that House had been already pretty well discussed upon the floor of Parliament, but whatever these influences might have been, certain it was, at any rate, that a large majority of the members were returned as supporters of the right hon. gentleman then at the head of the Government.

A strong government always enjoyed a great advantage in legislation, as well as in administration, because they were not subject to the temptation to consult selfish and individual interests which was apt to beset a Government dependent upon a small majority, and could fearlessly introduce measures from which a weak Government would shrink.

Accordingly, it was supposed by those who took an interest in public matters that it would fall to the lot of the late Government to deal with many subjects of the highest importance. Such subjects were urgently demanding that solution which wise legislation offered. They were questions closely connected with the material advancement and prosperity of this country. Some of them might tend to the consolidation of our great Confederation. The want of attention to some others might tend to interfere very seriously with the consummation of its integrity. The Parliament and the Government which could have met those questions and settled them would have earned the gratitude of the people of this country and a high place in its future history.

It was not the fortune, however, of the late Parliament to accomplish that task. It was, indeed, called upon to consider some questions, and, notably, one of great importance to our national well-being, and it might be that it would yet be remembered in history in connection with that question; but most of its work it was obliged to leave undone, and upon this House had descended the high responsibility and the great privilege of dealing with those matters. He thought he could say that great incentives were not wanting to the members of this House to exertions in the direction

indicated, and that there were strong personal and political reasons for their being earnest in their attention to legislative duties they would be called upon to discharge.

He believed this House to be the result of the free choice of the people. (*Hear, hear.*) A great national crisis had occurred; popular feeling and sentiment were keenly alive to the importance of the present and the coming time, and he believed they had made their choice wisely and well. (*Hear, hear.*) But there were other motives which were not wanting to induce the members of this House to earnest exertion. The questions which would come before them for consideration were such as might well be expected to tax to the utmost the energies of any deliberative assembly.

He had heard a remark—and he would not have referred to it but for the fact that it had already obtained considerable publicity—that this Parliament was not to have the advantages which were generally afforded to similar legislative bodies. He had heard it said that the Government were not to be favoured with any active or vigorous opposition. (*Hear, hear.*) He for one would extremely regret were this the case. He would be very sorry indeed if it should so happen that the country would not enjoy the benefit of the ability, experience, and energy, out of office, as well as it had in office, of his right hon. friend the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), and his hon. friends from Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron), and Northumberland, New Brunswick (Hon. Mr. Mitchell).

It would indeed be a misfortune if the Government did not enjoy the advantage of criticism from such fair and candid critics. He trusted the rumour was not correct, but if it were, it only the more behoved the supporters of the Government to exercise an independent, although friendly criticism towards the measure and acts of the Administration. He trusted he might be at liberty to indulge the hope that when the members of this House were called upon to give an account of their stewardship they might be able to claim that they had achieved what was expected of their predecessors, but what they had not been able to do, and that they had contributed their part to the building up and consolidating of our young Dominion. (*Cheers.*)

There was another phase of this Parliament which presented itself to his mind. A new Government was meeting a new House. It was not necessary for the Administration to ask from Parliament a fair and generous trial. Upon that question they had appealed to the highest and most potent tribunal, the constituencies; and upon that question the constituencies had pronounced. Far be it for him to assume for himself to speak the sentiments or intentions of the members of this House; yet he ventured to assure the Ministry that if they did, as they would do, their very best to administer the affairs of the country with a single eye to the public welfare, with a view to promoting the best interests of the people and not alone to the retention of their places; if they exhibited that statesmanship and sagacity which Canada had a right to expect from her foremost men, they would receive the earnest support, sympathy, and co-operation of the House of Commons. (*Loud cheers.*) Nay, he would even promise them more; if their course was to be regulated by the principles to which he had just referred, they would also be supported by the good sense, public spirit, intelligence, and patriotism of their fellow countrymen. (*Loud cheers.*)

Referring to the resolutions which were before the House, he said he thought they approached the consideration of them with a certain advantage. The Premier (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had taken the country into his confidence already with regard to his public measures in a manner which, so far as he knew, was unprecedented. It was true that sometimes when a great national question was stirring the public mind party leaders had been obliged to inform the country of the special views they entertained upon that particular question; but he knew of no other instance in the history of our country when the Premier, on the eve of a general election, had explained the details of the policy he intended to carry out.

Upon first looking at the Speech he perceived that there was in it abundant matter for congratulation, but closer scrutiny disclosed what he took to be a sharp sting in its tail. The Ministry had been under the necessity of informing the House that there was a deficit in the finances of the country but he was glad to say the responsibility did not lie at their doors. (*Cheers.*) Much as they might regret having to convey such information to the House, there was no reason for shirking the task, because the fault, if fault there was, lay upon others, whose duty it was to explain to the House and the country the origin of that fault. He had some idea—imperfect it might be—of how the mischief arose. It did not require much financial skill to tell what the result of enormous expenditure which this country had witnessed since Confederation must at last result in. It would have required a very great increase indeed in the revenue to prevent the deficit which many had for years predicted. Unhappily deficits could only be met in one way—that was by increased taxation and he supposed that increase of taxation meant a re-adjustment of the tariff. He thought he had the authority of his right hon. friend from Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) saying that such adjustment was necessary. What the nature of the re-adjustment ought to be it would be premature to discuss till the policy of the Ministry was disclosed; but he hoped and believed that the measure they would introduce on the subject would be of such nature as to cause no uneasiness in commercial circles. (*Hear, hear.*)

It was gratifying to learn, however, from this same paragraph of the Speech, that the estimates were to be framed with as much regard to economy as was consistent with the efficiency of the public service. He believed the phrase was a little stereotyped, but he relied upon this Administration to make it not a mere matter of form, but a real matter of substance. (*Hear, hear.*) He ventured to tell them that the people of this country were deeply interested in the question of economy, and no Government could better win a place in the esteem and respect of the people of this country than by introducing and carrying out a system of rigid economy in the administration of public affairs. Parsimony was not needed; the people were perfectly willing to give a full share of their means when they were assured that the money would be expended for proper purposes.

He could well conceive the difficulty which the Government must have in curbing an expenditure, the foundation for which had

already been so deeply laid; but he trusted the present Ministers would not only be equal to the task, but willing to apply themselves with vigour to economising where economy might be possible. Economy meant reduction of taxation, and the people of this country were so heavily taxed now that they were prepared to receive with thankfulness any reduction whatever.

Referring to the question of the election law, he said that Ministers had promised at an early date to consider the state of the law, with a view to its improvement and perfection as far as possible. That measure, it appeared, they were to submit during the present session. This also was a matter in which the people were deeply interested. It was the duty of the Legislature not only to give the franchise to all who were worthy of it, but also to secure its free exercise by some well-considered system of secret voting. (*Cheers.*) He had never himself been greatly enamoured with the ballot, in the abstract considering that every public function was best performed in the light of publicity. (*Hear, hear, and cheers from the Opposition benches.*) Upon that subject he had no doubt; yet if gentlemen thought that this expression of opinion upon his part involved any doubt of the efficiency of the ballot they were never more mistaken in their lives. (*Loud cheers from the Government benches.*) It might be that the ballot was a choice between two evils, but he preferred that alternative which secured the free, unbiased, unpurchased expression of the popular will. (*Cheers.*)

A certain American writer declared that freedom depended upon representative institutions, and that they, in turn, depended upon the ballot. To the latter portion of that opinion he did not subscribe to the literal extent, but he did not know of any mode that could be devised which would more effectually secure the free exercise of the franchise, upon which our representative institutions really depend, than the system of vote by ballot. To a great extent the principle had already received a recognition at the hands of the people of this country, inasmuch as it was already in operation in the Province of New Brunswick. A ballot law had been enacted in Ontario during the recent session and the matter had been discussed and carried by a large majority during the first session of the last Parliament.

He could conceive of no argument which could be supplied in favour of the ballot with respect to an individual Province which did not apply with equal force to the whole Dominion. The sentimental argument that the system was sneaking, unmanly, and un-British might be dismissed without lengthened notice, and he would simply say in reply to it that he knew of nothing which could be more unmanly or un-British than that which tended to keep from voters the free exercise of the franchise. (*Cheers.*) The argument that the franchise was a trust to be exercised by a limited portion of the community for the benefit of the rest, no longer held good as a reason for open voting, for the non-voting class was so small, and necessarily so weak in political matters that they could not exercise the slightest influence upon the voting class. The principle might be treated as settled and the question before the House would be mainly one of detail.

How they could best secure perfect secrecy he took to be the great desideratum, and he also understood that the system in force in the United States did not provide for this. While he did not pretend to suggest any plan which would ensure perfect secrecy, he ventured to hope that Government would be successful in doing so, as well as in providing a means of scrutiny, in case such were afterwards required.

To prove that such a desirable end should be attained, he pointed to the British Ballot Act, which was founded upon systems and experience in Australia, Italy, Greece, France, and the United States, the best portions of which were retained and the objectionable features discarded. With the example thus set before them, he hoped the Ministry would be able to frame a good workable measure.

Too much, however, must not be expected of the ballot as a preventative of bribery and corruption. He did not, himself, look upon it as a panacea for all political wrongs. He did not suppose it would entirely put an end to bribery, but it would go a considerable length in that direction, inasmuch as it would place great difficulty in the way of the trafficker in votes, and leave him no assurance that he had bribed with effect. It would be still more potent with regard to intimidation, and would almost, if not entirely, free the voter from the influence exercised over him by his employer, his landlord, his creditors, or any of those powers and combinations formed for other purposes, but used for political ends also. It might even weaken the influence of party organizations, and relieve the voter from an allegiance against which his conscience rebelled, but which he feared to renounce on account of the claim to which it would subject him amongst old political associates. All classes would be freed from temptation, and the poorer portion of the electors from coercion and intimidation.

With regard to Controverted Elections, he reverted in severe terms to the way in which the measure framed by the late Government was drawn, and point to the fact that grave doubts were expressed by the highest authorities before the Courts as to whether, according to the terms of the Act, such and such classes of acts were really to be deemed corruption sufficient to make the election void. He trusted this state of things would not be permitted to remain and that a measure would be introduced which would render it criminal either to accept or give a bribe. (*Cheers.*)

With regard to the establishment of a Supreme Court, he said it was a matter of very great difficulty, and one which must be approached very delicately; and he had never thought there was much reason for assailing the late Minister of Justice (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) for the deliberation with which he proceeded in that direction. He referred to the Act recently passed by the Ontario Legislature for the creation of an independent Provincial Court of Appeal, which would no longer make it possible for a judge who had already engaged upon a case to act with regard to it at a subsequent stage. Although the Bench of Ontario had hitherto laboured under that disadvantage in respect to appeals, he was proud that, notwithstanding the imperfections of the system, so well satisfied had the people of the Province been that the number of appeals to the Privy Council were wonderfully few, and the number of judgments there reversed a unit. (*Cheers.*) Whatever legislation was to be made in this House would in all

probability be framed without reference to the Provincial Act to which he had just referred. Some portion of that scheme might, therefore, be rendered unnecessary, and he reminded the Ministry of the facts just recapitulated, in order that they might consider any amendment which the changed circumstances necessitated. He hoped, at all events, the proposition of the Government with reference to this matter would be worthy of the Dominion of Canada.

He next referred to the promised reform in the militia system, paying a high tribute to the gallantry, patriotism and unselfishness of the volunteer forces of the country, and said he held it was the duty of the Government to encourage and assist them as fully as possible. He hoped they would in their measure propose an increase of pay to the militia, which had up to this time been wretchedly paid for the amount of work performed. He felt quite confident that Canada never expected her sons to fit themselves for her service without proper compensation. (*Cheers.*) He combated the idea that because our neighbours across the line were not inclined to be troublesome, therefore, there was no necessity for a trained militia. He thought there was no security like being well prepared, and he advocated the maintenance of an effective force, if for no other reason than to create amongst our people a spirit of nationality and self-reliance. He confessed that he had a very strong sympathy with the party which had recently been formed with the avowed purpose of fostering this national spirit, denied that it had anything in its constitution or purposes akin to "nativism" or "know-nothingism", and asserted they were equally willing to embrace in their ranks the newly arrived immigrant and the native-born Canadian.

He was strongly opposed to any disturbance of our relations with the mother country. Our people were very far from desiring separation; and whether as a Colony or as a part of the Consolidated Empire, it was their wish to form a portion of the group which clustered round the august mother of nations. (*Loud cheers.*)

Reverting to the promised amendment of the Insolvency Law, he recited the ineffectual attempt of Lord Westbury to make a satisfactory law, and declared it to be his own conviction that no law upon the subject would be so which did not give a hundred cents in the dollar to all creditors, and a free discharge to all debtors. The present law had been declared to be a perfect system of terrorism by creditors, and as creditors were always inclined to be reasonable where failure had been the result of misfortune, he advocated the enactment of a law of which the debtor would not be permitted to take advantage unless he was able to convince two or three of his creditors that his was a proper case for such protection as the statute afforded.

With regard to the Pacific Railway, he said the policy of the Government had already been fully explained to the country, and would, no doubt, be more minutely entered into at the proper time in the House. It would be the desire of the House, as he knew it was the desire of the people of the Dominion, to extend to those who were interested in this project the greatest measure of justice. The House would, he had no doubt, be prepared to deal very liberally with the question. (*Hear, hear.*)

He referred to the prospect of canal and harbour improvement, making particular reference to the harbour of Montreal, which he looked upon as being a benefit to the West as well as to the East, and expenditure upon which, he assured the House, would not excite the slightest jealousy in the West.

He was sure the House would hear of the negotiations for widening our commercial relations with the United States with much pleasure. The Government deserved the greatest credit for the action they had taken, be the results what they might. He did not pretend to know what were the prevailing views of American statesmen upon this subject but he had been informed that the great man whose loss the American people are now deploring was strongly in its favour. He hoped there were many others actuated by the same sentiment and that some arrangement which would be for the advantage of both countries would be arrived at. The mere renewal of the former treaty, he contended, would not satisfy the people of this country, as there were certain raw products now raised in Canada and exported, which were not included in its provisions as not subject to the high tariff. Of course the negotiators would take such additions to the products of Canada into consideration.

He referred to the right which the former treaty gave to Americans to make use of the St. Lawrence and the canals leading from the inland seas to the Atlantic for transportation purposes, and to the necessity of deepening some of the canals in question. He asserted that while the people had a strong desire to widen and strengthen our commercial relations with the United States, there was no wish to change our political connection with them. (*Hear, hear.*) If reciprocity were the avenue to annexation, what Canadian was there who would not at once reply "We do not want it." (*Loud cheers.*)

He had great faith in the future of the American Republic, but he had greater faith in that of his own native land, Canada. (*Loud cheers.)* He had no sympathy with those who would limit its history to a short period of colonial dependence upon Great Britain and then unite it with the Americans. (*Loud cheers.*) He believed that this would yet be the home of a great people, attached to the mother country in some way by the bonds of sympathy and affection and while continuing in close commercial relations with the United States, still preserving our identity, and advancing in prosperity towards the perfect consolidation of our great Confederation.

He concluded by moving the Address in reply.

The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

Mr. LAURIER who on rising was received with cheers, seconded the resolution in French. The resolutions had been proposed by the member for West Toronto (Mr. Moss) in an eloquent speech, which had really expressed the feeling of the country at large, and of the majority of the members of this House. The position of Canada, both socially and politically, had vastly improved. Under our Constitution we had the freedom, the privilege, and the power of a great nation, while at the same time we enjoyed all the advantages contingent on forming part of the British Empire.

He did not believe our Constitution could be replaced by another as good. Some of them had been opposed to Confederation years ago because they doubted if it could be properly worked, but the moment they were defeated, in 1867, they set to work to make Confederation a success. The French Canadian Liberal party were not like the Liberals of France or the other nations of the continent of Europe—(*Hear, hear*)—who were at any time ready by violence to overturn existing Governments. They rather resembled the Liberals of England, who for so many years worked and voted for Reform, and by Constitutional means achieved the grand results which they have today. From the moment the opponents of Confederation in Canada were defeated they bowed before the majesty of the law, and frankly and readily endeavoured to advance the interests of the New Dominion to the best of their ability. This was their programme; following out the principle of respect for authority, and for the general good of the country.

He was happy to see that the first act of the Government which had lately attained office was to give a portfolio to a representative of the youngest member of the Confederation, and so carry out the principle upon which it was established.

Our Constitution was founded upon the British Constitution—the finest under which men ever lived. It assured to every man his liberty, and enabled him to exercise his constitutional rights without fear. There was nothing on this Continent to equal this great Constitution; particularly was it fitted to unite citizens of different races, nationalities and religions—a quality in which the United States Constitution had signally failed. Today there was not a man in Canada who did not support this great union, and so successful had been the welding in one of the different Provinces that every man of them was proud to be a Canadian—(*Cheers*)—while equally proud to be a subject of the great British Empire. (*Renewed cheers.*) If today there was a man among them who would seek or desire to sever this union, he would be worthy of no place in a civilized community.

He affirmed, without fear of contradiction, that we presented a spectacle of civil and religious liberty not surpassed in the whole world. We had none of those questions to trouble us which excited the passions of the people and disorganized society in European nations. By a singular coincidence, England had just passed through a general election and witnessed the opening of a new Parliament such as they were participating in today. There, however, a Liberal Government had been overthrown, while here a Conservative Administration had been defeated. In both cases the party in power had been attempting to govern the people too much.

With these few general remarks he would set himself to discuss the programs before the House. He was happy to see that it was proposed to improve our commercial facilities and increase our industrial resources, and that amongst the measures promised, those relating to commercial development occupied so prominent a place. Political reform and the amendment of the Election Law, were also promised. For a long time the Liberal party had demanded a measure of reform, which was often refused; but the Liberal party now in power was exerting itself to put in force those principles which they had so long advocated in Opposition.

One of the principal reform in this direction was the simultaneous holding of elections. According to the old system the elections were arranged to suit political exigencies. The result was corruption and violence. The law as it existed was very little better, but fortunately the present Ministry had endeavoured to extract the sting from it in this respect, and consequently he was happy to believe that the present members were really the chosen of the people. (*Cheers.*)

The Conservatives, both here and in England, had always opposed the ballot, probably because they believed that the voice of the people legitimately expressed would be adverse to them, and also on the ground that it would result in the return of demagogues to Parliament. The experience of the ballot in England, however, had shown that demagogues had been rejected, and Conservatives had met with greater success than they had anticipated. The present contested election law was so defective that it would have to be thoroughly overhauled. The constitution of the Court was so little understood that today he believed a majority of the Judges were uncertain whether they were acting constitutionally or not. It was intended to define this part with greater clearness, and to enable the provisions of the law to be carried out with greater clearness.

He preceded to allude to the establishment of a Supreme Court, which, he contended, was necessary in order to pronounce on the constitutionality of the laws which at present had to be submitted to the law officers of the Crown in England for consideration. Another important reform promised was in relation to the militia.

With regard to the Pacific Railway, it had been asserted the present Liberal Government was far more liberal than the Conservatives, but it would be found the desire to see a railway constructed to the Pacific was quite as strong as that of their predecessors. Our best railways had been constructed too much for political reasons, and without due regard to the public interest or to the necessary economy either in general expenditure or in relation to the alignment. The Government, he contended, were pursuing the proper course in relation to this matter. He referred to the American Pacific Railways, in illustration of his point, and expressed the hope that care and deliberation would be exercised in the construction of our road.

Government also promised the enlargement of our harbours and canals. The question had been before the country for some years, but the work never has been vigorously prosecuted. Under the able management of the present Minister of Public Works he had no doubt this great work would be efficiently carried out. After paying a tribute to the energy displayed by the Hon. Mr. Young in connection with this matter and pointing out that in all such great questions they must look not simply to the next few years but to the great future, he came to the question of reciprocity, which he strongly advocated, and which the people strongly approved of. He hoped that the efforts of the Commissioner now at Washington would meet with success.

He concluded by congratulating the House and the country on the character for energy, integrity and ability possessed by the present Ministry, and by expressing his belief that the laws which they would place upon the Statute Book would be beneficial to the

country and satisfactory to every friend of progress. He concluded with a brilliant peroration and resumed his seat amid applause.

On the motion to adopt the first paragraph of the Address,

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD who was received with cheers, offered his congratulations to the mover and seconder on their first appearance in the House. With respect to the mover it was only what he had expected from him. His great professional ability and eloquence had given everyone reason to believe that, as he widened his sphere of usefulness by entering the Legislative Halls of the Dominion, he would exhibit the ability which he had evinced in the Courts of Ontario. Those expectations had been fulfilled. He could also congratulate the hon. seconder of the Address, who, likewise, had brought with him a reputation for eloquence, which he had fully justified.

At the same time he must compliment both gentlemen on their performing the responsible duties, delegated to them in the able manner they had. With most of the remarks that had fallen from the hon. mover of the Address he conceded, and where he happened to have the misfortune of differing with him by and by he would find that they were in more strict accord than they were at the present moment.

He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) cordially agreed with the hon. gentleman's utterances in favour of the continuance of, and a perpetual connection between Canada and England. He had said he did not believe in any severance of the ties existing, and took the earliest opportunity of pronouncing against that veiled Annexation—that—that Annexation in disguise—"Independence" as it was commonly known.

He was glad to hear the hon. seconder of the Address say that both our social and political bases were satisfactory, and to listen to him compare the Liberal Party here with the Liberal Party in England rather than the so-named Party in France, and say that under our present institutions we may look forward to the further development and future prosperity of the country. He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) therefore most sincerely congratulated the House, as well as the two hon. gentlemen, in the sentiments they had enunciated so early in their political career in Canada. It looked well for the future of Canada when they saw her young statesmen on their first entrance into political life take a course so satisfactory to the majority of the people of this country, satisfactory to the majority of the representatives of the people, and certainly most satisfactory to himself (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). His hon. friend, the mover, had alluded to a rumour which he said had reached him that there was to be no strong and vigorous Opposition to be offered to the present Government during the present session. That rumour, of course, had reached the hon. gentleman, but as yet it had not reached here. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. MOSS: The right hon. gentleman does not read *The Mail.*

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said well he might perhaps sometimes read *The Mail* but that rumour had not yet reached him. He had no doubt the Opposition would perform their legitimate duty, but if the Opposition failed in their duty, if they should be unaware of the responsibility thrown upon them, they had great consolation in knowing that the hon. gentleman, the mover of the Address, had thus early offered to supply their place. (*Hear, hear.*) He was glad his hon. friend had given fair notice to his friends on the Treasury benches that he would hold them to strict account. Fault finding was the term that had been applied to the duty of the Opposition, and, if they were unequal to that duty, the onus of it would fall on the hon. member for West Toronto. He had no doubt he (Mr. Moss) was sincere in his statement, and that he would carry out with strict liberality that candid criticism which he had told the Government would be exercised by him towards them.

The hon. gentleman made one remark to which he thought he must take exception, and that was with regard to the approbation he bestowed upon the leader of the Government, in having taken the whole country into his confidence before the recent elections. He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) thought that was a great political mistake, and that it was not unprecedented. It was not, because Mr. Gladstone took the same course; and, if there was one thing more than another for which he had received the censure of constitutional men in England, it was for adopting that course, in not appealing to the representatives of the people in Parliament, but rather pleading to a plebiscite. It had been announced in England by those who had followed Mr. Gladstone faithfully, and by constitutional men who knew what the Constitution of England is, that such a course is opposed to the very basis of parliamentary legislation.

What was the consequence of such a course? The consequence was this: a Minister, before he had an opportunity of consulting Parliament—before he had an opportunity of exchanging opinion with Parliament—before he had an opportunity of knowing what the opinion of Parliament would be—announced his policy in advance, and thereby tied his hands by pledging to the country that policy without receiving any assistance, any information, or any aid in maturing or forming the great measures which were for the benefit of the country. This course was generally censured in England, and he would tell his hon. friend that if he would carefully scan the English press he would find that the Liberal press—and as a matter of fact, the advanced Liberal press—were strongly opposed to the course of the hon. gentleman, in having appealed to the people directly, sowing broadcast to the people that which ought to have been reserved for the decision of Parliament.

He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) considered it was a very grave breach of constitutional practice, and he hoped it would not be considered a precedent to be followed in the future, but rather as an error to be avoided. It was Caesarism; it was Imperialism! They all knew how anxious they were in France to divert discussion from its legitimate channel by appealing to the people. The policy he had been referring to was an attempt to overthrow the established channel of legislation. The people were not prepared to discuss such serious measures, not having the advantages for discussing them freely as had Parliament, which was the only legitimate place where such matters could be considered.

His hon. friend said, with regard to the paragraph respecting the deficit, that the Government would deal with that with every candour, inasmuch as they were not responsible for it. He (Right

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) supposed they could not be responsible for any deficit in the revenue. The expenditure that took place during his Administration was such as could be justified, and he thought, when the discussion came up, it would be justified. The hon. gentleman said the only way of getting out of the difficulty was by a re-adjustment of the tariff and increased taxation. There were two ways which he afterwards indicated, one, was by increased taxation, and the other by means of economy. Whether the hon. gentleman opposite would change the deficiency into a surplus by adopting an exclusive system of economy or a system of increased taxation, or by an admixture of both the House would have to wait with patience to ascertain until they saw the financial measure of the Minister of Finance.

He was inclined to agree with the hon. gentleman about the Election Law. However, he made one remark respecting the Ballot Bill. He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) was opposed to the ballot on all the grounds the hon. gentleman had mentioned; but he was opposed to it chiefly on the ground that whatever act a man performed connected with the government of the country he should be responsible for, and he could not be responsible if he kept his voting secret from those whose opinions he valued—from the eyes of his neighbours and the world.

He, however, thought with the hon. gentleman that the ballot was almost certain to be adopted in this country. He felt, when he was on the other side of the House, and when this matter was up before the last Parliament that, as it had been adopted by so Conservative a country as England, they in Canada could not successfully resist it—(*Hear, hear*)—and he had then stated that while he himself reserved the right of voting against it, if the sense of the House was in favour of it, the Government would see that a clause for the carrying out of a system of voting by ballot should be introduced in the Election bill then before the House.

He did not think the Ballot Bill would be successful in preventing bribery or coercion, or violence. In England, where they had passed a law, at the first general elections in cities, since passing there, there had been more violence than for years and years. This law would not be thought to put down or do away with violence. When the blood of the people was up they will show it with the Ballot, so long as human nature was human nature. The Ballot might, however, do away with intimidation and undue influence. Therefore, he thought, with the hon. mover of the address, that the measure might be of great service. When voting was silent there would not be that influence used by Provincial Governments and Provincial officials over Dominion electors as had been shown to have already taken place.

His hon. friend had also spoken of the Militia law, and his sentiments agreed with his (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald's). He believed they owed a debt of gratitude to the Militia as constituted, and he was satisfied it was almost impossible, in England or in Canada, to keep up a voluntary force at any fixed rate. He believed that a number of the men who during the past few years had been drilled, who had been members of our Militia force, our embodied Militia force, and our volunteers had fallen out of the ranks and were not actual members serving at this time; but they had successfully acquired discipline, and at the call of the country would be readily available for service. They would soon fall in to their old companies or form new ones. He believed the Militia force an effectual force, and he believed it might be improved. He had no doubt, under the able administration of the present Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross), it would readily assume new vitality and efficiency, and become the admiration of the whole world.

The hon. gentleman had alluded to the Pacific Railway, and had stated that the policy of the Government had been announced by the Premier, and he presumed the same policy would be carried out. With respect to that great undertaking, he (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) would not anticipate what the calm deliberate policy of the Government might be, as laid before the House. He would not be one to hold the hon. gentleman to the speech he had made, or to any premature announcement of his policy on that subject. It was one too grave to allow of a perfunctory discussion. Until they had the advised policy of the Government laid before the House, he would deprecate any discussion in advance of the policy being laid before them. The matter was one of the greatest moment. It involved the future of Canada. It might involve the good faith of Canada, and it might involve the disintegration of Canada; therefore he hoped there would be no discussion upon this subject until the hon. gentleman brought down and laid before the House the minutes and the principle of their general policy, and the manner in which they intended that policy should be carried out. He would say for one that he would not hold the hon. gentleman to any utterances he made at election time. He should hold the Government free to lay before the House their policy up to the last moment before they would bring it down. (*Hear, hear.*) It was too grave a question for them to hold the hon. gentleman to his statement to any extent. It ought to be taken out of the run of party politics. (*Hear, hear.*)

With respect to the negotiations that had been opened at Washington, he sincerely hoped they would be successful, and if the Government succeeded in them they would deserve the approbation of the country, and he for one would accord his approbation and gratitude for that success. They did not yet know exactly, and they could not yet know till the papers were sent down, how these negotiations actually commenced. The general opinion last Parliament was that Canada could not go so far as to ask for a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty without some humiliation, and it was thought in Parliament and in the country at that time that any renewal of the negotiations must come from the American people themselves, a sense at the time existing that it would be for the benefit of the United States.

He hoped, when the papers were brought down, they would not show any undue eagerness or submissiveness on the part of the Canadian Government to re-open their negotiations. The hon. gentleman who had been sent down, they were informed and as they knew, went there with very great advantages, and he had no doubt he would use those advantages for the good of Canada—at least he hoped so. He believed he would be earnestly anxious to carry the negotiations to a successful issue. He hoped the Government would reserve to themselves the full right of ratifying any arrangement made by the hon. gentleman sent there. That hon.

gentleman was a man of great power, and possessed a great deal of earnestness, and beyond all he had a great desire for success. The only danger he (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) anticipated from that gentleman being deputed to negotiate with the United States Government for a new Reciprocity Treaty was that, rather than he should return with his mission imperfect—rather than return with any want of success—he would yield too much of the interests of Canada for the sake of gaining in some degree. His hon. friend from West Toronto (Mr. Moss) had, however, thrown out a remark which should discourage the negotiator at Washington because he had stated that the late Reciprocity Treaty, even if they succeeded in obtaining it, would not give satisfaction to the country, which wanted something more—to be consulted in making any such treaty. They could put in it whatever they thought proper, but there were two sides to the question, and the negotiator of the Government had not to think whether they could get all they wanted but they were to get as much as possible.

He for one would be only too glad to see the old Reciprocity Treaty restored. He had no hope that they would succeed in getting the Reciprocity Treaty in its entirety. All would be agreeably surprised if they did, and if the hon. gentleman made an approximation to it he would be satisfied. If they could protect certain interests and open up the market to others in any degree, it would be so much to our benefit. They would not, however, scan too closely the concessions that might be made, provided undue concessions were not made on our side. To these remarks he would simply add the hope that the negotiations might be successful, and that the hon. gentleman might come back and mark his return to political life by the great success of this treaty with the United States.

He did not propose to discuss the various points in the Speech. Most of the measures that were there had appeared in Speeches from the Throne under his (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald's) advice—the Election Bill, the Insolvency Bill, and other bills. If any one who had been here a year ago and had just returned had had this speech put in their hands, not knowing that the parties had changed sides of the House, he would have said, "This is the old programme of the Government. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) This is just the same speech I heard last year; there is nothing new in it." There certainly was little new in the speech, but what there was new would have the additional novelty and charm of having the support of both sides of the House. (*Cheers.*)

His hon. friend the seconder of the reply to the Address said with respect to the Supreme Court, that it was to be regretted that it had not been established from the beginning of the constitution. If they could have got such a satisfactory Court it would have been well. That might be true if they could get a good Court, but he doubted if it would treat constitutional questions in the sense he had indicated, which was that the Supreme Court here should have the same constitutional powers as the Supreme Court in the United States. He believed the Supreme Court was a necessity, and that every day showed the increasing necessity for it. It might be that late legislation in Ontario might cause a remodelling of all that might be prepared on that subject. They would wait with every patience for the measure. It was a question surrounded with difficulties, and he had never concealed that fact from the House. He would give his best consideration to any measure brought down and hoped that they would have not only a good programme such as this was, but a successful session. He did not intend to move any amendment. (*Hear, hear. Loud and continuous cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was gratified to hear the remarks of the leader of the Opposition, conceived as they had been to a great extent in good taste and moderation; but some of them he really thought were actuated by a less friendly feeling than appeared. The right hon. gentleman referred at some length to the plan of the Government for procuring enlarged commercial relations with the United States, and he had seemed in this connection to object to this mission, but especially to the missionary.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: No, No.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the right hon. gentlemen had warned them that they must not expect too much, and that the gentleman who had been commissioned by Her Majesty's Government at their request was one who was likely to show an undue submissiveness in the quarter to which he had been sent.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: What I did say was that the only danger might be that he would be too anxious for success.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the right hon. gentleman would not feel angry with him, he supposed, if he said the former negotiations at Washington were of such a nature as to lead up to that supposition on his part. The course which he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had always taken in regard to our relations with that Power were such as to justify him in believing that the country would at least accept his statement when he said that nothing should be done under this Administration which could in any way produce any humiliation on the part of Canada or Great Britain. (*Cheers.*) When this Government failed to obtain the establishment of such relations as should be conducive at once to the honour and prosperity of the country, they would leave the initiation and completion of such negotiations to some other persons. He regretted the remarks that had been made for this reason: he did not think it wise to discuss that question at all here today.

Referring to the right hon. gentleman's mission to Washington some years ago, he said that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had not ventured to discuss anything in this House in relation to it. He had forborne even to assist an hon. gentleman who was then upon this side of the House in making some resolutions which would have operated as an obstruction to the right hon. gentleman in his mission, and he asked the hon. member for Sherbrooke (Hon. Sir A.T. Galt) to withdraw his resolution so that the right hon. gentleman might proceed to Washington entirely unencumbered by even a suggestion from Parliament.

That course he expected would have been followed with regard to the action of the Government upon this occasion. They might be successful and they might not, but whether successful or unsuccessful when the circumstances became known to the country

it would be seen that they had followed a course at once friendly to their neighbours and dignified to themselves. The right hon. gentleman had told them that there was nothing particularly new in the programme, which he admitted to be a very good one on the whole, and which he had promised to support.

Although he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was obliged to him for the support thus promised, and while he would accept with great pleasure any suggestion for the improvement of any measure which the Government might submit to the House, he must say that the right hon. gentleman was mistaken when he claimed the paternity of the Election Bill. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had a very vivid recollection of the opposition the right hon. gentleman gave this Bill fourteen years ago in Parliament. He had a very strong recollection of the opposition offered to most of the provisions of this Bill in the Parliament before last, and although the right hon. gentleman had introduced Election Bills, they were introduced, as was the ballot resolution last year, in opposition to the right hon. gentleman's own views. In fact, he had only yielded to them ultimately as an expression of the public opinion of the country. That expression was chiefly promoted by hon. gentlemen now sitting upon the Government side of the House.

When the Government introduced a measure of this kind, they did so, not as the offspring of the right hon. gentleman, but as the fruit of their own labours, and chiefly in opposition to the right hon. gentleman and the Government of which he was the head. (*Cheers.*) Still, he accepted the statement of the right hon. gentleman as to his ultimate conversion to the views of gentlemen upon this side of the House, and although that conversion was rather tardy, and only came when the measure was sure of acceptance, he was glad the gentlemen led by the right hon. gentleman were prepared to accede to the proposal of this side of the House.

In reference to the question of representation in Parliament, he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) ought first to have congratulated his hon. friend from West Toronto (Mr. Moss) and his hon. friend from Arthabaska (Mr. Laurier) but he would now say that during the time he had sat in Parliament and listened to similar speeches, he did not recollect an occasion when he had heard the gentlemen acquit themselves so well as they had upon this occasion. (*Cheers.*) Although both gentlemen sit, as a matter of course, on the Ministerial side of the House—at least, so far as the Ministerial benches of the House could hold them—everyone, he was sure, would be pleased to welcome such an addition to the debating power of the House. (*Hear, hear.*) He was glad the remarks of both gentlemen were of such a character as to elicit the approval of the leader of the Opposition.

The right hon. gentleman had, however, been pleased to take exception to the remarks of the hon. member for West Toronto on the question of the ballot. One statement of the right hon. gentleman was, he believed, incorrect: the rioting in England during the recent election was not in connection with, or in consequences of, the ballot; not at all indeed, in connection with the polling, except in one trifling instance; but mere rioting promoted by the excitement attending upon the election in some excitable districts. There could be no doubt but the ballot would protect the freedom of electors, and that was what was desired.

He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had not hesitated to state formerly that taking the two systems and comparing them, he would prefer open voting, but, as he has stated last session, he believed that in a populous country, containing large manufacturing establishments, where there was a population which might be subjected to undue pressure from employers, from large landed proprietors, or from any other quarter, it was necessary that the ballot should be put into operation in order to afford the voter the necessary protection. For our large agricultural districts it did not matter as a general rule, he thought, whether they had the ballot or not, and it would probably produce in those districts no material difference. It was now an established fact, however, and it only remained for this House to adopt such wise provisions as to make it efficacious for producing the results which were expected of it.

He was glad the right hon. gentleman had not adopted any course of opposition on the present occasion. In doing so he had followed the course which was adopted by this side of the House when in Opposition, that was that unless there was something requiring immediate and marked attention the Address should pass as a matter of course. He thanked the right hon. gentleman for his moderation and forbearance in taking that course, and of the promise he had made to give all the measures of the Government a fair dispassionate consideration when they come before the House. (*Cheers.*) He wished to say one word with regard to the first statement of the right hon. gentleman. He would not say much about the fault-finding, but the right hon. gentleman had rather put words into his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) mouth. It was true the right hon. gentleman had accused him of fault-finding, and he had replied that it was his business to find fault with the measures of the Government, but he did not say that it was his only business, and the House knew that it was not the only business which occupied him when leader of the Opposition.

The right hon. gentleman objected to his announcing the policy of the Government before going to the people. He thought that in a speech made by the right hon. gentleman he had seen objection taken to their want of enunciation of policy. (*Hear, hear.*) At any rate he was sure that the whole Opposition press was greatly exercised over the want of that announcement till his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) address to the electors of Lambton was published, and if the right hon. gentleman was really opposed to the declaration of policy by Ministers on the eve of an election he was opposed equally to all his supporters in this country. It had been objected that they did not declare their policy with sufficient distinctness or in sufficient detail. He might be satisfied with citing the opinion of Mr. Gladstone upon this subject; but whether Mr. Gladstone had done it or not, he took a different view of the policy of such a course. He thought it was absolutely necessary that a new Government going to the country without having had any opportunity of meeting Parliament and announcing their policy, the country would have reason to complain if they did not do so.

To be sure the right hon. gentleman wanted them to announce their policy in this House at a time when they could not appear in

this House, but they took the earliest opportunity that they could to appear before the country and announce their policy. If they had erred in a constitutional point of view, he thought they had done right in a common sense point of view. All constitutional practices in such matters must, to a great extent, be governed by what was right in common sense. The right hon. gentleman and his friends did not take any serious objection at the elections to the announcement by Government of their policy to the country, and he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) remained of the opinion that they did an eminently proper thing in acting as they did. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. MASSON after some preliminary remarks said the Speech from the Throne was remarkable, not for what it contained but for what it did not contain. He had always expected that in these speeches reference would be made to the most important subjects which had been brought up during the recess. Among these subjects with reference to Manitoba, he knew that lately there had come down from Manitoba those who wished to extend their boundaries so as to have a seaport on Hudson Bay and an inland portion on Lake Superior. The House would, he was sure, be glad to know something about those negotiations. Then there was nothing—not a word—about the excitement, the discontent in British Columbia, of which we were told there was quite an evolution, but were told nothing about what had been done to quell the alarm.

Another question which had exercised the public opinion of Lower Canada, and about which there was not a word, was the administration of justice. He knew the Minister of Justice had taken a great interest in this subject, and had been almost the champion of it; but yet we were told nothing as to what had been done. He did not desire to embarrass the Government, but there was another question on which we ought to expect something. It was the question of our industries. Yet there was not a word about it. As to the Pacific Railway, he did not wish to say much about it, but he believed it would end in no railway at all.

One question which had agitated the country to an extent almost unprecedented was the School question. He thought hon. gentlemen on the other side would do him the justice, in view of his past career, to say that he had a good right to expect some reference to have been made to it in the Speech from the Throne. The Hon. Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) knew that he and his friends had not been afraid to embarrass their own friends on this question, and he, therefore, should not be surprised at his asking those who had worked with them last year why they had not disallowed the Bill. The Minister of Justice had told us nothing about it; the only thing we knew was through the papers; the only thing that had thus come to light was a despatch from England telling us what were the relations between the Home authorities and Canada in regard to the disallowance of the Bills. When he drew attention to these things it was not to find fault, but to urge those gentlemen who had supported himself and his friends on a former occasion to complete the work they had assisted to commence. The despatch to which he alluded said that the House of Commons was powerless to interfere. The intimation of this powerlessness he considered was an attack on the Constitution. It was said the only power rested in the Governor General in Council; and if this was to stand in the way the sooner the clause was struck out of the Constitution the better. Now was the time, then, to establish the Supreme Court which was so much talked of.

There was another question of far greater importance, and one which had agitated the country for some two or three years, which had been forgotten in the Address. This was the question of our relations with Manitoba. The question of an amnesty for the people of Manitoba was one which should be approached with the greatest prudence, and with a desire of saying nothing which should embarrass the Government, or create ill feeling among any class in the Dominion. It was a question of the greatest importance to the people of Manitoba. They might rest assured that peace and tranquillity would not reign in that province unless this question were settled. It was a question which interested not only the people of Manitoba, but the people of the whole Dominion. Our Confederation could not extend nor take the position on this Continent which it ought to take unless we could send the surplus of our population to those vast regions which we have purchased in the Northwest. Our Northwest Territories were to us what the Great West is to the United States. They could not expect, however, to send a numerous population there to create a Province and to contribute to our wealth and prosperity, unless tranquillity and peace were established in those territories. There was not a word upon that subject in the Address.

The only thing they could fall back on, the only expression of opinion they had received as to the policy of the Government upon that most important subject was the programme given by the Hon. Minister of Justice to the electors of Napierville when he came forward to re-election. It was not stated by any of the hon. gentleman's colleagues, but as the leader in Lower Canada, he believed he would not have expressed that opinion, or given it as his programme, if it had not been the policy of the Government. The Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion), if he was not mistaken, said that if it were proven that the amnesty was promised it should be granted. The plain meaning of that was that the amnesty had been granted by the Administration of the hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. DORION: I merely said these words, and I was very guarded. It is asserted that an amnesty had been promised. If it is proved it will be a great point in favour of Mr. Riel. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. MASSON said that was a great deal worse. He had expected that if an amnesty had been promised the pledge would have been carried out. (*Cries of "Six o'clock".*)

It being six o'clock, The Speaker left the chair, and the House took recess.

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NOTICE OF MOTION

Mr. CHARLTON will, on an early day, give notice of the following motion:—"That in the opinion of this House a geographical and geological examination of the Northwest Territory should be undertaken at the earliest practicable moment, with a view to obtaining reliable information as to the extent, varieties of

the soil, general character, and most northerly and easterly limits of the portion of that region adapted to the successful cultivation of the cereals; as to the mineral deposits, and the geological formation of the same; and as to the extent, character, and commercial value of its forests, both within and outside of the portion of the country adapted to cultivation. That the examination include observations for latitude and longitude, and measurement of altitude, and that the information thus obtained be placed before the people of Canada and Great Britain by reports printed and circulated at the public expense, fully setting forth the information obtained; and that the emigration to that region should be further promoted through the translation of such reports into the French and German and Scandinavian languages, and the free circulation of the same in France in the German States, and in Denmark, Sweden and Norway."

Mr. CHARLTON will ask leave to introduce a Bill on Thursday next entitled "An Act to prevent cruelty to animals while in transit by railway or other means of conveyance within the Dominion of Canada."

AFTER RECESS

Mr. MASSON resumed his speech. He said he had gathered from the organs of the Government that it was their intention to appoint a Commission or a Committee of Enquiry. He did not see what the use of that would be. It could not surely be to delay this matter, but must be to obtain information. If hon. gentlemen had the necessary information they ought to act upon it. If they had neglected to use the time at their disposal, he would ask the leader of the Government if he had ever enquired of those who only could have promised either to grant or to ask for the amnesty. He hoped that if it was promised, or if something equivalent to a promise had been given, the Government would say, "The honour of the country is engaged, the pledge of the country is engaged, and we are bound in honour to redeem the pledge that was made."

He considered that Canada was, to a large extent, to blame for the excitement which had taken place in the Northwest Territory. Those territories were happy and contented. They did not ask for union, but, without asking them or their Government, they were transferred to Canada. The acts of the Government were the acts of the country, and the present Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) had agreed with him (Mr. Masson) at that time, though the present Minister of Public Works did not. Canada had sown the wind, and they must not be surprised if they reaped the crop. The Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had contended that the member for Kingston did wrong in receiving the delegates from the Northwest, because they represented the Provisional Government of the Assiniboine rebels.

He (Mr. Masson) had agreed with the hon. gentleman that the reception of these delegates was equivalent to a recognition of the Provisional Government. When once a Government received delegates from rebels they were bound to forget the acts done by them before their reception—of which the Government was aware when they received them. The Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) having maintained that the reception of these delegates was wrong was bound to carry out his views, or else admit that he was wrong and apologise to the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*)

He proceeded to quote from the Conservative newspapers of Toronto of a few months since, recommending an amnesty in distinct terms. He said that Riel, though an outlaw, had acted with generosity towards Canada, though he had not received that justice from Canada to which he was entitled. Whether an amnesty was actually promised or not, the honour of the country was engaged to the issue of an amnesty. They remembered the anxiety caused by the Fenian raids in Canada. Manitoba was also threatened with invasion. Manitoba was also threatened with invasion by men who were said to have the support of the American Government. At that time the authorities of Manitoba wanted the assistance of Mr. Riel and the French half-breeds; but by coming forward he placed his liberty and even his life in danger. He had authority from Father Ritchot to read the papers he was about to read.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk): Are these original papers?

Mr. MASSON said they were papers which he copied years ago from the original papers, and when, a short time ago, he showed them to Riel, he said they were correct. The negotiations between Governor Archibald and Mr. Ritchot were verbal, but they agreed that it would be better to have them in writing. He then proceeded to read a letter to the following effect, dated 4th October, 1871:—

"To His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor—Your Excellency,—In the interview I had the honour of having with you today we became in accord that it was proper that the influence of Mr. Riel to lead the people, his compatriots, in the circumstance and to stop them from taking a false direction should be secured. I take the liberty of observing to Your Excellency that, Mr. Riel being in the difficult position that he could not act publicly as a citizen, I do not think that he could place himself at their head unless some guarantee is given that his action will be well considered by Your Excellency-in-Council. In consequence I ask of you some assurance that will protect him against any legal attaint, at least for the circumstance."

This letter was from Father Ritchot, and to it a reply was given by Governor Archibald, on paper bearing the Government arms, and quite an official document. It was dated "Government House, Oct. 5th, 1871," and was to this effect:—

"Rev. Sir,—Your note has just reached me. You speak of the difficulties which impede any action by Mr. Riel in coming forward to use his influence with his follow citizens to rally to the support of the Crown in this emergency. Should Mr. Riel come forward, as suggested, he need have no apprehension that his liberty will be interfered with in any way, to use your own words, for the actual circumstances. (*Hear, hear.*) It is hardly necessary for me to say that the co-operation of the French Half-breeds and their leader in support of the Crown under present circumstances will be very gratifying, and cannot be looked upon otherwise than as entitling them to the most favourable consideration."

This was signed "A.G. Archibald, Lieutenant Governor." (*Cheers.*) Mr. Riel, as soon as he saw that disposition, came to the front, saying. "I shall accept the honour, and then the Government cannot treat me otherwise than as a loyal and faithful subject." Mr. Riel answered that he would with pleasure go at the head of the movement, and he (Mr. Masson) had a letter written by Mr. Archibald's private secretary, on the 8th October, 1871, to him. It was as follows:—

"Gentlemen—I have it in command from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this morning, assuring His Excellency of the ready response of the Métis to the appeal made to them in His Excellency's propositions. You may say to the people in whose behalf you write, that His Excellency is very much gratified to receive the assurances, which are confirmatory of his expectation, and that he will take the earliest opportunity of presenting to His Excellency the Governor General this evidence of the loyalty and good faith of the Métis of Manitoba."

The letter concluded with a request to be furnished with the nominal roll of the people in each parish, and the declaration that the Governor General relied upon them to come forward immediately they received notice. It was addressed to Messrs. Louis Riel, Lépine and Perrault. He appealed to the House to say whether the honour of the country was not pledged in this matter. If they did not think Riel was entitled to be considered as one of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, they had no business in the time of need to appeal to his patriotism for the defence of their common country. He contended that the action of Canada in regard to the Northwest in recognizing the delegates from the Provisional Government, and in recognizing this act of generosity on the part of Mr. Riel, was sufficient to show that the faith of the country was pledged to an amnesty, whether it was actually promised or not. He appealed to the Minister of Justice to say whether he did not think he had made the case good, and concluded by declaring that he had no intention to embarrass the Government.

Hon. Mr. DORION who was received with loud cheers, said the hon. member for Terrebonne had gone over a great many subjects, and upon several points found fault with the Government. He had found fault not so much with acts of commission, but with those of omission. He found fault in the Address the Government had taken no notice of the important troubles that took place in the Province of British Columbia, and which seemed to exercise him very much.

The first information Government received of these troubles caused them a good deal of anxiety. A revolution appeared to be imminent, and the anxiety was increased by the fact that the wires for two or three days were down, he did not know by what accident, and they naturally expected that the rebels, that is the Conservatives, who seemed to be at the head of the rebellion—(*Laughter*)—had cut them. The first news communicated was that the Premier of British Columbia had fled from the country for fear of the excitement in Victoria, and that the Speaker of the Assembly had been driven from the House. But the moment the wires were up again they found that the Premier had been elected by a handsome majority in that very city of Victoria. (*Cheers.*) They found it was a little ruse of the Conservative party in British Columbia, and there was no great anxiety about the safety or peace of the country. He could now satisfy the hon. gentleman, and he thought his hon. friend the Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross) would hear him out in the statement, that the Government was at peace with every nation on the earth. (*Laughter.*)

The hon. gentleman had asked why they did not speak on what had taken place in regard to the administration of justice in Lower Canada. He had no doubt his hon. friend, who had disclaimed any idea of embarrassing the Government, would be gratified to hear that at the last term of the Court of Appeal the new judges sat from 10 o'clock to 5 hearing cases, and that no less than 45 cases were heard, whereas the number of cases formerly heard when the Court did sit, which was not always, was from 18 to 20, or at most 22.

Then he complained that in the Speech it was announced that there was a deficit, and that to cover it properly new taxation would have to be resorted to. At the same time the hon. gentleman professed to be a protectionist, and complained that while they were going to put an additional tax upon the country, there was not one man in the Ministry likely to protest the interest which Mr. Masson himself protected. If the Government were putting additional taxes, that was in the sense of protection, as generally understood by protectionists.

Mr. MASSON said it did not follow that because the Government imposed an additional tax that they would place it upon articles of consumption.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he supposed the hon. gentleman did not expect the Speech from the Throne to state that the Government were going to tax whisky or any other article. (*Laughter.*) His Parliamentary experience ought to be sufficient to lead him to believe that the Government would not announce what they would tax, a month beforehand.

He then complained about the New Brunswick School Law. He had heard that the hon. gentleman had been chosen a co-leader of the Opposition with the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). (*Laughter.*) He must surely know who it was in 1872 who did not want to disallow the New Brunswick School Law. Last session there was one gentleman going from one side of the House to the other with a telegram in his hands stating that the Bishops of the Province of Quebec, united in Council, had decided that no further proceedings should be had in that matter. (*Hear, hear.*) Whether that was the member for Terrebonne or not he could not say. (*Laughter.*) It might have been a neighbour of his. (*Laughter.*) Perhaps the hon. gentleman would tell them whether he sat before the Privy Council was at an end or not.

He could not understand how it was that an hon. gentleman who was a Programmist, who was bound by the authority of his bishop, of his church, and of his clergy, came here, and in order to attack the Government went back on his constitution of last year. That authority of the bishops was binding. (*Cheers.*) Perhaps the hon. gentleman had some privileges which others had not; perhaps he had a dispensation (*Laughter*) or something which made him see things in a different light from different sides of the House. It might

have injured his friends last year, but now he thought that instead of injuring his friends it might injure the Government.

Mr. MASSON said all he contended was that the House had a right to know from the Government why the law was not disallowed.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he was not sure if the time for disallowance was not up in the winter of 1873; but it was at the request of the hon. gentleman himself. It was not done by showing telegrams from bishops saying it had been decided not to act.

After that the hon. gentleman came to a question which he felt, in common with many members of this House, was of great importance to the country. It was the question of amnesty to those who took part in the troubles in the Northwest. Again, who was in power when those troubles took place? It was not this Government who knew what took place with the delegates, or how it came out that a telegram was sent to Archbishop Taché, who was in Rome, to come at once and settle these difficulties. If it were clear to the hon. gentleman, it ought to be equally clear to the minds of the leader of the Opposition and the member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) who, he saw, were passing papers about, and seemed in perfect accord with the hon. gentleman.

Let the leader of the Opposition who was in constant and daily communication with Archbishop Taché, Mr. Ritchot, Mr. Alfred Scott, and Judge Black rise and say they promised an amnesty after the death of Thomas Scott. When the Opposition were agreed upon this point, it would be time enough for them to call upon the House to declare what they would do. Let the leader of the Opposition say, "We were in communication with the actors in that drama. The state of the country was such that we did promise an amnesty. We did tell the Archbishop to go there at any price and pacify the country."

Let the hon. gentleman get his co-leader to say that, and the majority of the House and the country would say that if the leaders of the Government at that time had agreed, with the sanction of those who no doubt represented the Imperial authority, to promise an amnesty, there was something higher and more lasting than to have the blood of one individual, and that was to keep the faith of the country intact; and those who guided the destinies of the country were bound to keep its honour unsullied. When he got that, then he might call upon this side of the House to say what they would do.

He admitted that there was a great deal in the documents the hon. gentleman had read. If half of those occurrences really took place, if the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba asked this man, who had the blood of another man upon his hands, to undertake the defence of the country, there was a great deal to cause reflection, not only to the members of this House, but to the whole country, as to whether the representative of the Crown could put a citizen in that position as long as his help was needed, and then put a halter round his neck as soon as he had repelled the enemy, and hang him at the next tree. Very few, he supposed, would be willing to put the representative of the Crown in that ridiculous position.

The hon. gentleman said he had evidence in his hands, and if it were produced he had no doubt it would cause many to pause as to the steps to be taken in this unfortunate matter. He (Hon. Mr. Dorion) was quite certain that the speech just delivered by the hon. gentleman, in which the Hon. Minister of Justice came so often, was not intended for him, but for the late occupant of that seat. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) It might, however, have been damaging if delivered during the last three years, and so the hon. gentleman had kept it in his desk and brought it out to-night for the first time. They had never heard of these documents before, nor of the promise of an amnesty, because it might have been damaging.

He asked the House to apply this speech to the late Minister of Justice (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). The hon. gentleman had quoted extracts from *The Mail* and The *Leader* declaring that an amnesty should be granted—for the sake of the peace of the country. *The Mail* and The *Leader* were not very great authorities in this House, at all events upon that side, but a far greater authority would have been the late Minister of Justice. If he would only get the views of his co-leader and tell the House what he thought of an amnesty! What were the facts of the case? What was the state of the country when these alleged promises were made—when Governor Archibald wrote that letter to Mr. Riel, complimenting him upon his loyalty and faithfulness to Her Majesty! Knowing this, perhaps they might more intelligently be able to form an opinion as to these matters.

On one occasion it was stated by the present leader of the Opposition (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) that when Governor Archibald shook hands with Riel, he did not know who he was. (*Hear, hear.*) If he was not mistaken, that statement was made on the floor of this House; but it seemed from these letters that Gov. Archibald knew perfectly well who Riel was; that, in fact, he had been in communication with Mr. Ritchot, who told him about Mr. Riel—that he alone could organize the French half-breeds, and that from the very peculiar circumstances under which he stood towards the Government, it was impossible to repel the invasion with which Manitoba was menaced unless he had a conditional pardon offered him. It appeared from the letter that Gov. Archibald, whether with the consent of the Government here or not he did not know, guaranteed his safety for the time. The member for Terrebonne (Mr. Masson) had not told them whether that was done with the consent of the Dominion Government or not, but surely the leader of the Opposition could say whether it was not with the consent of the Government and Lord Lisgar that these occurrences took place.

At the same time, the mere reading of these letters was no proof at all. The hon. gentleman appeared to say that he (Hon. Mr. Dorion) had agreed in a great many things with him, though when the vote came they always parted. Perhaps he was a humble follower of the hon. gentleman, but the hon. gentleman was certainly not a follower of his. He supposed these things were approved of by the Government, seeing that the then Governor of Manitoba had since been promoted to a Lieut.-governorship of a much higher rank. Let him remember that there were parties more intimately connected with the troubles and negotiations that took

place, and if he had read all the letters, he might have thrown more light on the subject—the one, for instance, which said, "The promise which you (Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier and Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) have often made to me of an amnesty, I hope you will give me the proof of before I leave the country."

Mr. MASSON: Do you know of that letter?

Hon. Mr. DORION: I ask if you know of that letter?

Mr. MASSON: You think you know the amnesty had been promised, and you won't give it.

Hon. Mr. DORION: I know nothing of the kind, but I was shown a copy of a letter, which I was told was a genuine letter, from the Rev. Father Ritchot to Hon. Sir George-Étienne Cartier of the 8th of May, 1870, in these terms: "Sir, I hope before I leave for Manitoba you shall put me in possession of the proof of the promise you and Sir John have so often made to me of an amnesty," and I know it was declared that in the answer Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier did not deny it. He did not know whether these letters were genuine or not, but the hon. gentleman knew that he had these letters in his possession, viz.:—The letter of Mr. Ritchot to Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier on the 18th of May, and the answer of Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier's on the 23rd of May, in which he did not deny the facts.

The hon. gentleman, in his zeal, came here as if the Government were the only guilty parties. Why did he not ask the right hon. gentleman to admit if these letters were genuine or not? Let them agree first on the other side of the House, and they might join and ask the Government what they were about to do in this matter. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. COSTIGAN maintained that the late Government had shown greater consistency in dealing with the New Brunswick School Act than the present Administration. The old Government held that they could not advise His Excellency to disallow the Act of the Local Legislature. The present Government held a different view when in Opposition, and passed a resolution embodying their opinion; but they had not acted upon it since their advent to power. (*Hear, hear.*) He declared his intention to bring up this question again this session, and ask the House to pass a resolution calling upon the Imperial Parliament to amend the constitution in such a way as to enable the Dominion Government to remedy the injustice under which the Catholic minority suffered.

Mr. De COSMOS said he rose to make some explanations with regard to the recent disturbances in British Columbia. It was well known that when the Province of British Columbia entered the Dominion it was agreed that a railway should be built within a certain time, and two years were allowed for the commencement of the work. At the end of two years a commencement had not been made. The Government of Canada sent an Order in Council out to British Columbia stating that the terminus of the Pacific Railway had been located at Esquimalt, and asking for the Government of the Province to reserve for the purpose a piece of land along the shore of the Island of Vancouver. The Government of British Columbia made that reservation, but it turned out that no survey had at that time been made. The construction of the railway should have commenced twenty days after the reservation was made, but it did not.

The people of British Columbia were consequently very much dissatisfied, and a few days subsequent to the time when the road had been expected to commence, they sent a protest to the Government of Canada. They felt that the Government of the Dominion had broken faith with them, and he (Mr. De Cosmos) was prepared to say that, in not commencing the railway within the time agreed upon, the Government of Canada did break faith with them.

It might be said that the late Government did all they could by chartering the Allan Company; but it must be understood that British Columbia made no bargain with the Allan Company. It made a bargain with respect to that railway only with the Dominion of Canada. He used his influence with the Government, not only as a member of the Government of British Columbia, but also as a private member of the House of Commons, to get them to make a bona fide commencement of the road; but the reply he received on more occasions than one was that the Government had done all it could.

So great at length became the feeling of disappointment in British Columbia, that he and the rest of the Local Government concluded that something must be done. He was sent as a special agent to the Dominion Government to obtain the money voted to construct a first-class graving dock at Esquimalt, and also to borrow a certain sum to open up the Province so that immigrants might be induced to settle in it. When he came to communicate with the Government of the Dominion, it was agreed that in lieu of five per cent per year for twenty years on $100,000, they should give the Province of British Columbia a total sum of 50,000 pounds sterling for the construction of the graving dock; but there was no bargain made with reference to any relaxation of the clause in the Terms of Union relative to the Railway.

The Ministry led by the right hon. gentleman opposite resigned, and the Ministry now led by the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, the Minister of Public Works, came into power. He (Mr. De Cosmos) saw the leader of the Government, and that gentleman confirmed the arrangement he had referred to, but there was no relaxation of the Railway clause in the Terms of Union. Certain people of British Columbia started the report that it was not true that the Local Government had received from the Dominion Government a promise of money for the construction of the graving dock, but by and by the papers were sent down, and it had to be believed that such a promise was made.

Then a report was started that the promise had been made in consideration of the representatives of the Province, bartering away what British Columbia was entitled to under the Railway clause.

Meetings were held with regard to the matter, and he (Mr. De Cosmos) was informed that the parties who got them up were leading members of the Opposition to the Local Government, and that the people in every case asked them to support the policy of the Government—to accept the 50,000 pounds, and a meeting was called to protest against it, because it was stated that money was to

be received in consideration of the relaxation of the Terms of Union.

At the end of the meeting it was moved by a certain party, a newspaper editor, that they should proceed in force over to the Legislature and present certain resolutions. The crowd did pass over to where the Assembly were sitting. There were probably a thousand, but the large body of them were not rowdies, and did not use violence of any kind. There were a certain number, however, who did, and when they entered the galleries of the Legislature they made a noise, and the Speaker thrice asked them to desist, but they would not, and he left the chair. After a short time the crowd dispersed, but it was deemed advisable by Government to swear in a few special constables, and fifty, he believed, were sworn in accordingly.

On Monday following, a deputation came to the bar of the House and presented a petition, and while the deputation was in the lobby a day was appointed on which to take the petition into consideration. This petition was with reference to the 50,000 pounds. He (Mr. De Cosmos) believed that a telegram was sent across here as well as to England and to the United States, to the effect that the British Government had been asked for a man-of-war to be sent round to Victoria to protect the Legislature—and that the British Government had refused to send her.

It was also stated that he (Mr. De Cosmos) was forced to resign. He denied that he had been obliged to do this, either by the proceedings of the mob or by the voice of the country. He was supported by his colleagues in the Ministry as a unit, and when the Bill finally passed there were, he thought, eighteen or twenty members out of twenty-five in favour of the policy of the Government to four or five against it.

The reason why he retired was simply this—that during the session of 1873 the British Columbia Legislature passed a law abolishing dual representation, and subsequently, but in the same year, a similar law was passed by the Dominion Parliament. He was, therefore, compelled to make his choice whether he would remain in the British Columbia Government as leader, or retire and become a candidate for the House of Commons. He chose the latter, and hence it was necessary for him to retire from the Local House.

The gentlemen who were in the Government with him were in power still, and were supported by as large a majority as ever. (*Hear, hear.*) Last session the British Columbia Legislature passed a Ballot Bill. Last election was the first occasion on which voting by ballot took place in that Province, and he was happy to say that his fellow citizens returned him at the head of the poll, and that when he came away they escorted him to the steamship. (*Hear, hear.*) This was the whole story of the great revolution in British Columbia, which the newspapers had been talking about in Eastern Canada as well as in Great Britain and the United States.

Mr. BUNSTER said those who went to the British Columbia Legislature with the petitions went there in a business-like way, but the people of that Province felt very much disappointed that the Government of Canada had not carried out their part of the bargain on which they had come into the Union. They hoped, however, that this would yet be done, though not as soon as had been promised.

Mr. DEWDNEY said there was no doubt much dissatisfaction existed in British Columbia at the non-commencement of the Pacific Railway in that Province. The hon. member opposite (Mr. De Cosmos) on one occasion met him in Victoria last summer, and told him that the railroad was to be commenced at once, and he was the very man who drove the first stake of the survey. Mr. Dewdney believed the late Government did all in their power to commence the construction of the railway and carry out the Terms of Union.

With reference to the railway and the disturbances in the galleries of the Local Legislature, he contended that the people of Victoria conducted themselves in a most orderly manner. It was true there was a good deal of excitement at what was believed to be an attempt to relax the Terms of Union. This was natural enough from the address of the Premier to the electors of Lambton.

With reference to the application for a gunboat to protect the Local Legislature, he could say nothing on his own positive knowledge; but he was informed by the senior officer of the navy that such an application had been made to him and refused. (*Cheers.*) In Vancouver Mr. De Cosmos could not find a seconder to his nomination, and he had to go to another district to be elected. So strong was the feeling of the Province against him, that of the four members present from the Pacific Coast, not one member agreed with him. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. De COSMOS again denied that he sent a letter or any communication asking for a gunboat to protect the Government. He could assure the House that the hon. gentleman who had just sat down did not represent the opinions of any large section of the people of British Columbia.

The first three paragraphs of the Address were then successively put and adopted. On the fourth paragraph,

Mr. MASSON acknowledged that he received a letter from the bishops, but denied that it contained anything referring to an appeal to the English Privy Council, or that he was aware they were willing to wait until after that appeal had been made. He had been asked to become a member of the late Government, but had not consented to do so, as he was not a man to sacrifice his principles with regard to this matter.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that he did ask the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Masson) to become a member of his Government, and that gentleman replied, thanking him for the honour, but stating that there were two questions to which he attached the greatest importance, and that until these were settled in accordance with his opinions he could not entertain the idea of accepting the proffered position. These two questions were a general amnesty, including all crimes, political or otherwise, which had been committed during the troubles in the Northwest or in consequence of them, and justice in the New Brunswick school matter. He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), on the part of the Government, declined to give any assurance with regard to these matters, and the hon. gentleman declined to enter the Government.

The remaining clauses of the Address then passed, and were read a second time.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE then moved that the resolutions be

referred to a Committee with instructions to draft an address founded thereon.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE reported the address from the Committee, which was adopted, and ordered to be presented to His Excellency by such members of the House as were members of His Excellency's Privy Council. The Address was ordered to be engrossed.

* * *

STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved, seconded by **Hon. Mr. DORION**, "That a Special Committee of seven members be appointed to prepare and report lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees."—Carried.

Hon. Messrs. Dorion, Burpee (St. John – City & County), Holton, Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, Hon. Messr. Robitaille and Messr. Mackenzie were appointed a select committee to name the regular standing committees.

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MOTION TO ADJOURN

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House do now adjourn.

* * *

MEMBER ELECT FOR PROVENCHER

Mr. BOWELL said that before they adjourned there was a question that he wanted to bring before them. It was a question of privilege. It was pretty well known to everyone there that a man who had been returned for the electoral district of Provencher had taken the oath and signed the roll. It was also very well known that this man was charged with murder, and was a fugitive from justice. He thought therefore that this House would conserve its dignity by taking action in the matter at the earliest possible moment. He would have thought from the course pursued in the past with regard to this question by the hon. gentleman who led the Government that he would early have taken some steps to purge this House of a person whose presence must be obnoxious to a considerable portion of the members. He (Mr. Bowell) thought that before this matter was done with, the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) would find that he (Mr. Bowell) and the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Masson) were not acting in concert with regard to it, and the simple handing by him of papers to the hon. gentleman did not indicate any such concert.

He moved, seconded by **Mr. SCHULTZ**, "That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do attend at the opening of this House tomorrow, with a return of the last election for the electoral district of Provencher, together with poll-books and all other letters, papers, and documents which may have any reference to that election." This was the course pursued with reference to the election in the District of Muskoka, and in the County of Peterborough by the Hon. Mr. Blake during the last Parliament. If the House passed this resolution, he would be prepared with another to examine a gentleman before the bar of this House who, he (Mr. Bowell) thought, could put the House in possession of such information as would justify further action in the premises.

The motion passed.

Mr. BOWELL then moved, seconded by **Mr. SCHULTZ**, "That the Hon. H.J. Clarke, Attorney General of the Province of Manitoba, be summoned tomorrow to the bar of the House to answer such questions as may be put to him relating to the indictment before the Grand Jury against Louis Riel, member-elect for Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, for the murder of one Thomas Scott."

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought that there should not be so much hurry in the matter, but that they should wait until they saw the result of the proceedings on the first motion. They would then know what further action to take.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE thought they should have the opinion of the Minister of Justice on the point.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he had no objection to bringing the documents before the House. He had nothing to say in the matter until a substantive motion was made. Then, however, he might have something to say.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought with his friend from Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) that the House should be afforded an opportunity for considering the precedent for the action proposed, if there were such precedent. The Motion assumed that an indictment had been made, but this House had not been seized of it. It appeared to him that the mover of the resolution ought to lay the foundations of his proceedings with greater care than he proposed to do. The hon. gentleman may have read in the newspapers that an indictment was laid, but that was not such information as the House should act on.

Mr. BOWELL said the Government had assented to his first proposal, and he did not see any reason why he should postpone action on the matter. It was true he assumed there was an indictment laid, and a true bill found; and it was true he was not seized of documentary evidence, but he presumed it was well known to everyone that there were facts. It was for the purpose of getting at the facts, however, that the Attorney of Manitoba was to be brought before this House.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the objection of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) was that in the resolution the mover assumed that Riel was the very man without any proof. He (Hon. Mr. Dorion) did not think, however, it made much difference whether the motion passed or not, for if it appeared tomorrow that he was not the right man, of course no action would be taken.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON explained that his object was to have a little time for reflection.

Mr. BLAIN submitted that the motion was not at present correct in form. The only object of a motion of this kind was to obtain evidence with regard to a matter which had been brought before the House by another motion. He held, therefore, that before the motion was put the hon. gentleman who proposed it should move that the hon. member to whom it referred be expelled from the House. He

could then move that witnesses be brought before the bar of the House to give evidence. (*Laughter.*)

The motion then passed.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought in a message from His Excellency, signed by His Excellency's own hand, and handed it to the Speaker. The message named Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie, Dorion, Burpee (St. John – City & County), and Coffin, with the Speaker, as Commissioners with respect to the internal economy of the House of Commons and for other purposes.

The House adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, March 31, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PROVENCHER ELECTION

The SPEAKER informed the House that, pursuant to order, the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery was present with all the poll-books and the papers in connection with the election for the electoral district of Provencher.

The Deputy Clerk of the House then read the commission to the Returning Officer, the proclamation, and the return, certifying the due return of Louis Riel as representative of the county.

In reply to the Speaker,

Mr. BOWELL expressed himself satisfied. His purpose in calling for the papers was simply to ascertain the effect and legality of the return.

* * *

PETITIONS

Mr. WALKER presented a petition from the Board of Trade of the City of London, for the removal of taxes upon petroleum.

A large number of petitions for the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors were also presented. Most of them were from Ontario.

* * *

CAUGHNAWAGA SHIP CANAL COMPANY

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented a petition for the incorporation of the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company.

* * *

COMMITTEES OF SUPPLY AND WAYS AND MEANS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved, "That it be resolved that this House will in future appoint the Committees of Supply and Ways and Means at the commencement of each session, so soon as an Address has been agreed in answer to His Excellency's Speech and that the said resolution be a standing Order of the House."

In making this motion he reminded the House that a similar one was proposed by the hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) last year. The purpose of the motion was to assimilate the practice in this House with the practice in the English House of Commons, where for some years the various formal motions which preceded the motions to go into Committees of Supply and Ways and Means were abolished. As the powers of the Crown were no longer so strong in this community as to make their exercise formidable to the liberty of the people, and as the reasons for those motions had now disappeared, which was pointed out by Mr. Gladstone at the time they were abolished in England, neither the privileges nor prerogatives of the House would suffer from their being expunged. It would be for the convenience of the House that the sessions should not be unnecessarily protracted, and he thought the effect of the resolution he had just submitted would be to shorten it by some ten days.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: No, no.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said before this motion passed he would like to hear the views of his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) upon the subject. He thought his hon. friend had been very strongly opposed to it last year, holding that although it had really worked well in England it did not apply here; that it gave the Government the power of unduly pressing the supply, thus throwing over the rights of Her Majesty's liege subjects who represented the people of Canada. In fact, the hon. member seemed to consider that the complicated system of motions formerly prevailing in England, and still prevailing in Canada, was not a substantial obstruction to the business of the House, but on the other hand was a substantial benefit, which should not be allowed to lapse. These were the views of his hon. friend when a Government was in power in which he had no confidence.

No one descended to the depths of wickedness at once, and perhaps it would be well for his hon. friend with his usual prescience to take time by the forelock, and before this Ministry fell in his estimation, as they most undoubtedly would, maintain the position he took up a year ago. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said his right hon. friend seemed to forget that he (Hon. Mr. Holton) had now resigned the office he had last year, when these objections were taken, and that the right hon. gentleman had himself succeeded not only to the office but to its duties and emoluments. (*Laughter.*) He only hoped his right hon. friend would hold the office as many years as he (Hon. Mr. Holton) had done, and fulfil its duties as well. (*Great laughter.*)

With respect to the motion of his hon. friend the Minister of Finance, he would call the recollection of the right hon. member for Kingston to the terms of objection he took last year to a similar motion. The same objection could be taken to this motion, but not to the same extent. He did not last year object so much to the change itself as to the mode in which it was proposed to be brought

about, without any notice being given and without any time for consideration.

The change in England, as the right hon. gentleman knew, was the result of an enquiry by a Committee into the possibility of accelerating the business of the House, and of reforming the mode of procedure. With the enormous amount of business which yearly came before the Imperial Parliament the question was a very serious one how they could best improve the mode of procedure, seeing that for want of time to consider them an innumerable number of measures were sacrificed at the close of the session. This was the motive which led to any changes being proposed or carried out in England. The Committee referred to had not met for some time and their labours were not very fruitful; but one of the results was a change of the whole form of proceeding before going into Committee of Supply and Ways and Means.

He did not know that there was any particular objection to the same course being pursued here, and certainly the motive which incited the motion of the Minister of Finance was a good one. His objection to this change, like those he had taken to a great many propositions of hon. gentlemen upon the other side of the House which seemed objectionable, was in the interests of the minority, whose rights it was his duty for so many years to protect. The right hon. gentleman had now succeeded to those duties, and if he felt as he (Hon. Mr. Holton) did last year, that the rights of the minority were to be imperilled by the change, he should certainly support him in postponing it till, as had been done in England, a Committee had been appointed and had reported on the subject.

It would be futile in him (Hon. Mr. Holton) to object to it if the gentlemen on the other side of the House did not. The time which it was claimed would be saved by it would be very small indeed; he did not believe it would make one day or one hour of difference.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD thought little time would be saved by the change, but it would relieve the Minister of Finance of a number of small motions, the omission of any one of which would throw him over for a considerable time in proceeding with Supply and Ways and Means. He had a lively recollection of the way in which his hon. friend from Châteauguay threw over a late Minister of Finance, Sir John Rose, when he outlined any of those motions. He thought the proposal embodied was a substantial improvement which relieved the journal from a series of unnecessary motions. He had proposed it himself last year and he could not, therefore, very well oppose it this year. He did not think the rights of the minority would be in any way affected by the carrying out of the proposition.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved, "That the House will tomorrow go into Committee of the Whole to consider the resolution that a supply be granted to Her Majesty, and also that the House go into Committee of Ways and Means."—Carried.

ADDRESSES FOR RETURNS

Mr. DELORME moved for a return showing the number of votes polled for each candidate in the different electoral districts during the late general election.—Carried. Also, a return of mill and factory machinery imported into Canada, with the duty paid thereon, since 1867.—Carried. Also, a return of reports, pamphlets, etc., printed since the British North American Act, 1867.

Mr. YOUNG pointed out that the motion would entail a large amount of labour to the Department. He thought the object of the motion would be gained by letting it stand.

Mr. DELORME said he would have no objection to making his motion simply include last year.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the motion was practically useless. Many of the documents were out of print, and it was impossible to ascertain how many had been printed and even to a great extent the number of forms made use of. Perhaps the hon. gentleman had better let the motion stand and if there was any particular pamphlet he required the Government would procure it for him if possible.

The motion was allowed to stand.

* * *

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

Mr. DELORME moved for a return of the number of persons killed or injured on the different railroads for Canada since the opening of each of those railroads. He also desired to know the causes of such accidents.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was afraid that in many instances the returns requited by the General Act of 1867 had not been as complete as the statute contemplated. The Government had taken steps to make them as complete as possible for the future, and all they could promise at present was that the returns in the Department would be presented although they would not contain the complete returns hon. gentlemen expected.

The motion was carried.

* * *

LOUIS RIEL

The order for the attendance of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and the Attorney General of Manitoba was then read.

Mr. POPE, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, occupied a seat at the Clerk's table. The Sergeant-at-Arms admitted Attorney General H.J. Clarke of Manitoba to the bar of the House.

The SPEAKER: In obedience to the order of the House, I issued a summons commanding the Hon. Mr. Clarke to appear today at the bar of the House to answer questions relative to the true bill against Louis Riel for the murder of Thomas Scott. Mr. Clarke is now present and as his health is exceedingly delicate, I ask permission of the House that he may take a seat.

Mr. CLARKE was accordingly accommodated with a seat at the bar. The following questions were then put in writing by Mr. Bowell, and the replies were taken down by the Clerk:

Q.: What is your name, where do you reside, and what is your profession?

A.: My name is Henry Joseph Clarke. I reside at Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba. My profession is that of a barrister.

Q.: Are you now Attorney General of that Province, and how long have you held such office?

A.: I am Attorney General of that Province, and have held the office of Attorney General of the Province since the 10th of January, 1871.

Q.: Do you know Louis Riel, the member for the electoral district of Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, and are you acquainted with his handwriting?

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) rose to a point of order. This motion took it for a fact that an indictment had been issued.

The SPEAKER did not think that question should be discussed when the motion was made, but now there was an order of the House that Mr. Clarke should be examined.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the object of putting the questions into the hands of the Speaker before they were put to the witness was that they might be objected to by any member who thought them irregular. He supposed the member for Marquette rose to debate the fitness of this question, and therefore, thought he was in order.

Mr. BOWELL said the member for Marquette objected to the original motion, not to the form of this question.

After some discussion,

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) said he was alluding to the original motion.

The SPEAKER explained that he had ruled out of order the objection to the motion passed yesterday, and not the question. The examination was continued and the question was repeated.

Witness: I know Louis Riel and I am acquainted with his handwriting.

Q.: Is the name "Louis Riel" which appears upon the roll now shown to you in the handwriting of Louis Riel, the member elected at the last election for the electoral district of Provencher in the Province of Manitoba?

A.: The signature now shown me is that of Louis Riel, although it is rather more heavily written than he usually writes it; and Louis Riel is the member elected for the electoral district of Provencher at the last election.

Q.: Did you, as Attorney General of the Province of Manitoba, prefer an indictment against Louis Riel before the Grand Jury of the Court of Queen's Bench of the said Province, for the murder of one Thomas Scott? If so, state what was done in the case.

Mr. MOUSSEAU contended that the question was irregular, because the evidence could only be given by public documents, and not by oral testimony.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) understood the objection to be that no secondary evidence of the indictment could be given. In a Court of Law there was no question but that would obtain.

Hon. Mr. DORION gave it as his opinion that an indictment could not be proved by oral evidence.

After some discussion,

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) referred to English precedents. In the case of O'Donovan Rossa, a motion for expulsion was not necessary, as a person convicted of treason or felony was ipso facto disqualified from sitting in the House. In that case the motion was simply to declare the seat vacant. In the Sadlier case, however, a motion for expulsion was made on the ground that a warrant had been issued against him, and he was a fugitive from justice.

Mr. BOWELL cited the Sadlier case, where a fugitive from justice was expelled from the British Parliament, to show that strict legal rules were not altogether applicable to a case of this kind. He thought that Attorney General Clarke, being the prosecutor, was the best witness as to the indictment.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) suggested that a question, merely asking if an indictment had been found against Riel, would be in order; but the moment the question referred to the contents of the indictment it was out of order.

The SPEAKER stated that the contents of the indictment could only be proved by producing the document itself.

Mr. BOWELL then put the following question: Was an indictment laid against Louis Riel in the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba?

A.: At the extra term of the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba, in November last, an indictment was laid against Louis Riel.

Q.: Was a warrant issued upon this indictment for the arrest of Louis Riel?

A.: A Bench warrant was issued by the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba against Louis Riel on the indictment.

Q.: Have you got that warrant? If so, produce it.

Mr. MOSS objected to the question on the same ground as the former one had been declared out of order.

Mr. BOWELL withdrew his question, and submitted the following in lieu of it: Was a warrant issued upon said indictment?

Mr. MOUSSEAU objected to the question still as being irregular.

After a brief discussion the question was declared in order.

A.: I have the warrant referred to, and I now produce it.

Witness produced the warrant, which was read by the Clerk. In the usual legal terms it commanded the Sheriff to bring before the Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench the body of Louis Riel, to answer for an indictment found against the said Louis Riel, for the murder of one Thomas Scott. It was signed "J.J. McKeagney, Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench", and dated Winnipeg, 15 November, 1873.

Q.: Have any steps been taken to secure the arrest of the said Louis Riel, member for Provencher? If so, state what was done.

A.: The Sheriff, police officers, and detectives of the Province have been in search of Louis Riel from the time of the issuing of the warrant to the present time, but he has evaded their pursuit.

The SPEAKER took exception to the reply as containing statements which Mr. Clarke could hardly be expected to know as facts within his own knowledge.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said the reply was quite regular.

Q.: Do you know whether a warrant for the arrest of Louis Riel has been put into the hands of the police officers in the City of Ottawa?

A.: I have no personal knowledge of the fact.

Q.: Do you know any facts as Attorney General of Manitoba relative to Riel's participation in the murder of Thomas Scott? If so state them.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) thought the question objectionable, as it was putting this man on his trial for murder; but this was not a Court to try him, and the question was entirely out of order.

The SPEAKER thought the question objectionable, as it implied that Riel's participation in this matter had been to some extent established.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said it was established that the party named in the warrant was a fugitive from justice, and he thought that was all it was necessary to get from this witness.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON denied that it was established that Mr. Riel was a fugitive from justice. He had been in this building and placed his name upon the roll of members; therefore, he was clearly not a fugitive from justice. In the case of Mr. Sadlier, the order was that he should appear in his place and answer for himself, and he had every reason to believe, if such an order were made in this case, Mr. Riel would appear and justify himself.

After further discussion,

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. BOWELL put the following question: Do you remember the threatened Fenian invasion of the Province of Manitoba in the year 1871?

Mr. McDONNELL submitted that all the questions which had been put except those relating to the indictment were irregular, as the notice on the paper was confined to the subject of the indictment. Mr. Riel was a member of this House, and if he had been properly notified of the examination which was to take place here today, he might have been in attendance. In the absence of an hon. member of this House, hon. gentlemen present were bound to protect his rights.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said that when the witness was at the bar they had a right to ask any question though the House might determine whether it should or should not be put.

Mr. McDONNELL asked if it was fair to Mr. Riel.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) asked why Louis Riel was not in his place to defend himself. He was in this building yesterday, signed the roll, and was sworn in. If he were absent it was his own fault.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) said if matters were to be entered into so fully, it would be well to ascertain whether there were not political or personal reasons for it.

Mr. PALMER thought that such an insinuation was needless, to say the least. What was to be proved was whether Louis Riel was a fugitive from justice or not. If he were, it was for the House then to say whether he should be expelled from Parliament. If Louis Riel was not present to defend himself he had no one to blame for his absence. Under the rules of the House he should be in his seat.

Mr. BOWELL explained that his object in asking the question was to prove that Louis Riel was not only a fugitive from justice, but also that he was concerned in the Scott murder. If he were not allowed to put the question, it would only necessitate the putting of another motion on the paper. He expected that every technical objection would be taken to frustrate a full investigation. (*Cries of "Order".*) He regretted that a disposition had been shown to observe all the legal technicalities of a law court instead of prosecuting the investigation with a view to eliciting all the facts.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) did not regard the question as one of order as to the question of fact; but it should not go so far as to show that Riel had any complicity in that invasion. That, he considered, would be unjust.

Hon. Mr. DORION had no objection to the question, though precedent showed that the proceedings should commence by a notice to the member concerned to appear in his place.

After some further discussion,

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order, on the ground that under the present order of the House they had nothing to do with the Fenian invasion.

Mr. BOWELL then proceeded with his examination of the witness.

Q.: Have any steps been taken by you to procure the outlawry of Louis Riel in consequence of his non-appearance at the Court of Queen's Bench to answer the indictment found against him?

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that it seemed to him that was not a proper question. The answer to it must imply

evidence with reference to the contents of papers and not before the House, and he thought they could not take proceedings in outlawry unless on evidence in writing.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said that the question was simply, "have any steps been taken!" and the answer, word "yes" or "no". What were the steps was another thing.

The SPEAKER: I think the question is in order.

The question was then put.

A.: Steps have been taken by me, as Crown Prosecutor of the Court of Queen's Bench for the Province of Manitoba, to proceed with the outlawry of Louis Riel, on account of his having evaded the pursuit of justice and refused to come and take his trial.

Mr. BOWELL: Is the Louis Riel to whom you have referred in your evidence as having been indicted before the Grand Jury of the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba, and against whom a true bill was returned, and who has since been a fugitive from justice, the same Louis Riel who was elected at the last general election for the electoral district of Provencher a member of the House of Commons of Canada, and whose name appears upon the roll of names of members of this House shown to you by the Clerk of this House?

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said that he thought the question ought to be amended. It contained in it a statement of what this House would have to find out, which was whether this gentleman was a fugitive from justice. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. MOSS said the question might be put in this form—Is the Louis Riel to whom you have been referring in your evidence the same Louis Riel who was elected member of this House for Provencher?

Mr. BOWELL said he thought his question covered the object taken to it. What he (Mr. Bowell) asked was—Is this the Louis Riel to whom you have referred in your answers as having been indicted before the Court of Queen's Bench, and against whom a true bill has been returned? These facts had been established, and, consequently, Riel was a fugitive from justice.

Mr. MOSS said that the witness did not say that. He said that Riel had evaded the pursuit of justice.

Mr. BOWELL then put his question in the following form: Is the Louis Riel to whom you have referred in your evidence the same Louis Riel who was elected a member of this House for the electoral district of Provencher, and whose signature appears on the roll shown to you?

A.: He is the same individual.

Mr. BOWELL: That is all, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. OUIMET: State the source of your knowledge of the steps taken by the sheriff and police officers referred to in your answers.

A.: I derived my information from the sworn testimony of the sheriff and officers referred to, and, in some instances, by being myself in command of officers seeking to make the arrest.

Mr. MOUSSEAU: At whose request did you procure the warrant referred to in one of your answers?

A.: If the hon. gentleman will state what warrant he refers to, I can answer. I have referred to several warrants.

Mr. MOUSSEAU: The Bench warrant produced by you here.

A.: I was not asked by anybody to procure that warrant. I brought it here for the purpose, if Louis Riel presented himself, of having him arrested by due course of law. I may add that I had the same warrant with me last December when I came down.

The SPEAKER: I think it would be better if the witness confined himself to the simple questions put to him, and did not volunteer any statements.

Mr. OUIMET: State when and in what capacity you put yourself at the head of the police officers of Manitoba to arrest the said Louis Riel.

A.: In the month of February last, and as a Justice of the Peace for the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. MOUSSEAU: Was the indictment referred to in your answer laid before the Grand Jury long before or after the election of Louis Riel in October last or thereabouts to represent the electoral district of Provencher in the House of Commons of Canada?

A.: The indictment referred to was laid in the month of November, 1873 at an extra term of Court. I do not know when the election took place in Provencher.

Mr. OUIMET: Were there other persons arrested for the same offense at the time the warrant against Riel was issued?

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he did not think the question was a proper one. It was a matter of no importance as far as this enquiry was concerned whether any other person was arrested or not. The next question might be, what are their names?

Hon. Mr. DORION said he thought the question bore as much on the case as any other which had been put. There had been no charge nor any motion on which a question could be put. They did not know why the witness was brought here.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said the several questions which had been put were with reference to a person who was a member of this House. The present question had reference to persons who were not members of this House, and they had nothing to do with the arrest of such persons.

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. MOUSSEAU: Do you know if any election proceedings took place in Provencher last fall?

A.: I am aware that an election took place in Provencher last fall.

Mr. OUIMET said that they had a few more questions to put to the witness, and as some time would be necessary to prepare them, and the House were anxious to deal fairly with the question, they would, he supposed, be willing to adjourn the examination. He would therefore move, seconded by **Mr. MASSON**, that the examination of witnesses be adjourned until tomorrow at three o'clock, and that the witness be required to then attend in the House.—Carried.

Mr. BOWELL moved, seconded by **Mr. SCHULTZ**, that the policeman McVeity, of the city of Ottawa, be summoned to appear tomorrow at three o'clock at the bar of the House, to be examined in the matter of the warrant for the arrest of Louis Riel, and to bring such warrant with him.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that they had no evidence that such a policeman or such a warrant existed. They had it in evidence this afternoon that a warrant was issued in Manitoba. This document was not on the table. It was therefore impossible that it could be in the hands of this policeman, and they had no evidence whatever that any warrant had been issued or that such existed.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said there could be no objection to the policeman being examined. He might have a warrant, and a member of the House stated he required the evidence of a witness whom he named. He was not required to do anything else.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said no charge had been made. Someone ought to take the responsibility of formulating one, so that they should not be calling witnesses in this loose way from all parts of the country, or else of basing an enquiry upon papers placed upon the table.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said that he had had no communication with the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) as to what he intended to do, but as far as he had gone he had pursued exactly the same course that had been followed in other cases in England—among others, the Sadlier case. Upon reaching a certain stage of the case a certain course would have to be pursued. That stage had not yet been reached.

The motion was then carried.

Mr. BOWELL moved, seconded by **Mr. SCHULTZ**, that Louis Riel, member for Provencher, do attend in his place in this House tomorrow at 3 o'clock.—Carried.

* * *

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) laid on the table the Trade and Navigation Returns for last year.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD laid on the table the Inland Revenue returns for last year.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the Easter adjournment of the House.

* * *

THE RECESS

Mr. DYMOND said that before the motion was put perhaps Mr. Speaker would allow him to ask his hon. friend at the head of the Government whether he could give members some idea of the length of the Easter recess. He would take the liberty of saying, without desiring to inconvenience the hon. gentlemen who came from a greater distance than himself, that it would be agreeable to many with whom Good Friday was a day of religious observance to arrive at home on Thursday evening, and therefore not to meet on Thursday. Many hon. gentlemen felt it their duty, if possible, to attend the vestry meetings of one denomination held on Easter, Monday evening and they would accordingly desire not to leave home again till Tuesday. (*Hear, hear.*)

It was not for him, as a very young member, to urge his own wishes upon the House, and he only threw out the suggestion in order to elicit the opinions of members, believing that his hon. friend would gladly listen to wishes that might be generally expressed on the subject. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said no suggestion had been made to him, and he was not aware that any had been made to his colleagues on the subject. It was the desire of the Government to consult the convenience of the House, and they would respect any opinion the House might express with regard to it.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said perhaps the hon. gentleman would inform the House tomorrow what the Government would do.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested an adjournment until Tuesday evening at 7.30.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD pointed out that Thursday was a holiday of the Catholic members of the Ministry. The next day was Good Friday, and the next day following upon which the House could sit was Easter Monday, a statutory holiday. He thought it would be better to adjourn until Wednesday. A meeting at half-past seven o'clock on Tuesday evening would not answer any purpose. Those members who arrived on Wednesday morning would be placed at a disadvantage.

Mr. YOUNG thought the matter should be looked at partly from the point of view of those members who came from distant parts of the Dominion, who could not go home during the adjournment. He thought the recess should be made as short as possible, particularly as warm weather was coming on.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government would endeavour to ascertain the wishes of hon. gentlemen generally before 3 o'clock tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 6.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 1, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Several petitions were presented against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

* * *

CANADA INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. DOMVILLE presented a petition from the Canada Insurance Company, praying for an amendment to their charter.

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THE RIEL CASE

Mr. BOWELL said he had yesterday made a motion to have the policeman McVeity brought to the bar of the House, with the warrant for the arrest of Riel. He had found since then that the policeman mentioned was not the one who held the warrant, and therefore he moved that Philip Hamilton, of the Ottawa police force, be summoned forthwith to the bar of the House, to be examined in the matter of the warrant for the arrest of Louis Riel, and to bring such warrant with him, if in his possession.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it would be desirable to go through the routine proceedings before commencing with these motions.

Mr. BOWELL said the Premier did not seem to have understood the purpose of the motion, which was to rectify the mistake made last night inviting the policeman McVeity, and thus continue the business of the House.

The motion carried.

Before today's proceedings were begun,

* * *

EASTER RECESS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said, with reference to the adjournment of the House over the Easter period, he had consulted the views of as many of the members as he could and there was a very general desire to adjourn until Wednesday, April 8. He thought all the objects would be met by adjourning until half-past seven on Tuesday evening. He had, therefore, to move: That when this House is adjourned today it does stand adjourned until half-past seven on Tuesday night.

He further stated that it was understood that on Tuesday night the business would be of such a character as would not be likely to create discussion. The Session would be useful for taking initiatory steps with regard to a number of measures. (*Hear, hear.*)

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BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL PENITENTIARY APPROPRIATION

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (New Westminster) enquired why the sum of $25,000, passed in the estimates of 1873 for the construction of a part of the Provincial Penitentiary in British Columbia, has not been expended, and whether it is the intention of the Government to proceed with its construction, and if so, when?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I am informed that the reason why it was not expended was that plans were not prepared until very late in the autumn. The plans have only been completed within the last month or two, and the construction will be proceeded with immediately.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA MEMBERS

Mr. DEWDNEY enquired whether the Hon. the Premier or any member of the Cabinet received a telegram from Mr. De Cosmos stating that six members from British Columbia would support the present Government, such an assertion having been made by the Hon. the Secretary of State (Hon. Mr. Scott) at the last general election, and contradicted by Mr. De Cosmos in British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I have no knowledge of what private telegrams were received by members of the Government, and if I had I would not feel disposed to mention it in public. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

* * *

MAIL SERVICE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. BUNSTER asked whether it is the intention of the Government to establish a daily mail communications between Victoria, British Columbia, and Puget Sound in place of the bi-weekly service at present performed, and thus connect it with the mail system of the United States.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry): I have to inform the hon. gentleman that it is not the intention of the Government to establish a daily mail there at the present time.

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MR. EDGAR'S MISSION TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. DEWDNEY enquired whether Mr. Edgar is the accredited agent of the Dominion Government to British Columbia, and if so, what are his instructions?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Mr. J.D. Edgar has been sent on a confidential mission to British Columbia, and the instructions he has received are not such as I am prepared to present to the House at present. (*Hear, hear.*)

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MOTION FOR PAPERS

Mr. DELORME said he had decided to change the motion for a return of pamphlets, reports, et cetera, printed since Confederation, which yesterday was allowed to stand so that it should read from the lst January, 1873.

The motion was carried in this form.

* * *

MANUFACTURES

Mr. CHISHOLM, on the motion for a Select Committee on the extent and condition of the manufacturing interests of the Dominion, said he had agreed to leave this matter in the hands of the senior member for Hamilton (Mr. Wood). He, therefore, moved for leave to withdraw the motion.

The order was then discharged.

* * *

SALE OF LIQUORS IN PARLIAMENTARY BUILDINGS

Mr. CHISHOLM moved that Mr. Speaker be requested to issue an order prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of this House. In doing so, he promised not to occupy the House in discussing the question, as he believed every member in the House had already made up his mind upon the matter. He referred to the rumour that the gentleman who had for many years kept the saloon had been dismissed, and the place given to another, but disclaimed any intention of doing injury to the lessees in moving this motion. The matter had been brought up against him during the recent campaign and he was then accused of not raising the matter in the last Parliament. Of course he had to get out of it as soon as he could.

He found on examining the Journals of the House for 1864 that a similar motion had been carried by 111 to four members. Among these four there was only one member present now. This was his hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) who was then a high-toned Conservative. Now that he was a Reformer like himself (Mr. Chisholm), he did not expect that he would be found voting against it. *(Cheers and laughter.)*

It was a duty they owed to themselves and to the country to do away with drinking, in the House at all events, and some attention should be paid to the feeling of the people in the matter. He looked for the support of every member, whether he was in favour of a prohibitory law or not.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought he was as good a temperance man as the hon. mover of this resolution. In 1848 he had been appointed a member of a Committee to assist the Speaker in the internal management of the House, and to prevent people from drinking. (*Laughter.*) It was found as a result of a prohibition similar to that now proposed that bottles of liquor of greater or lesser dimensions were found in every cupboard of the various Committee rooms. (*Laughter.*) If members could not get drink inside the House they would have it outside the House. (*Laughter.*) It was better to leave it as a matter of discipline. Moral suasion, he was satisfied, would be more successful as to its results than the vigorous mode of procedure proposed by the hon. mover of the motion. If drink was to be consumed it was right that the liquor furnished should be of the very best quality. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

He advised that this matter be left to the decision of the Speaker, and that the motion be not pressed. If it were he would vote against it, and he predicted that the result would be worse than the evil of which the hon. gentleman complained were the motion carried.

Mr. ROCHESTER supported the resolution, as he thought the House should set the example of doing away with intemperance. Although he had never been a teetotaller, but on the other hand, a manufacturer of beer, he hoped this resolution would pass.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said that when temperance houses were established in Quebec he had seen people coming out of them on the shoulders of four men.

Mr. CURRIER said he had a great deal of pleasure in supporting this motion. He thought, in order to make it of any avail at all, it should be put stronger. It merely prohibited the sale of intoxicating drinks. He would suggest an amendment to prevent the use of liquors in the building.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) said he had been a teetotaller for forty years, and hon. gentlemen who had been in Parliament with him before would remember the course he had always taken on this question. He was surprised at the remarks made by his hon. friend the member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) and he had hoped that no voice would be raised today against the discontinuance of the sale of liquor in this House by authority of Parliament. On two former occasions a similar motion had been carried, but the Speaker had not acted in accordance with the resolution. He has been glad to see the present Speaker take the chair, because he believed he would carry out the will of Parliament. He was certain the House would not suffer the disgrace to exist another day.

Mr. RYAN cordially supported the motion. He hoped that Mr. Speaker would see that the order was rigidly enforced.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) hoped the House would unanimously pass the motion, and that it would be followed by the prohibition of the sale throughout the country.

Mr. BUNSTER was sorry to see this matter brought up as a Temperance question. It was well known that members sitting in the House to a late hour required refreshments. He for one believed that hon. gentlemen were able to govern themselves, and he did not approve of copying the movement of the women of Ohio. What was to become of the revenue, if this movement was to spread? (*Laughter.*) He for one entered his solemn protest against this motion.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON rose to move an amendment.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) rose to a point of order. His hon. friend had already spoken, and could not therefore move an amendment.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON looked bewildered and took his seat amid roars of laughter.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: Never mind. I have a friend who will move it. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. LAFLAMME moved, seconded by **Mr. JETTÉ**, that this question be referred to a Committee of five members, notably, Mr. Chisholm, Mr. Cameron (Ontario South), the mover, and the seconder.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he had now a right to speak, he supposed. (*Laughter.*) He spoke in favour of moderate drinking. He was opposed to all extremes, and did not approve of preventing a man who wanted a glass of liquor from getting it. People who wished to drink would find liquor, even if they had to go outside of the building for it, and the result would be that members would be missing when they should be present to vote on divisions.

Mr. JETTÉ said that although he had seconded the amendment, he claimed the right of voting against it.

Mr. KERR supported the original motion. The sentiment of the country was in favour of it and he should be glad if not only the sale but the use of intoxicating liquors were prohibited within the precincts of the House.

Mr. CURRIER, in amendment to the amendment, moved that Mr. Speaker be requested to issue an order prohibiting either the sale or use of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of the House.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: Then if you give a dinner, Mr. Speaker, we cannot take a glass of wine with you?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE hoped the amendment would be withdrawn. The vote could be taken as well on the first amendment, and besides, the motion of the member for Ottawa was hardly in order, as the Speaker could not prohibit the use of liquor.

After some discussion **Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South)**, who had seconded the amendment, said he would consent to its withdrawal. It had been offered merely for the purpose of showing that the original motion was no buncombe resolution, but was intended to be enforced for the purpose of wholly excluding intoxicating liquors from the buildings.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he insisted that the amendment of the member for Ottawa (Mr. Currier) should be put, and promised to support it.

Mr. CURRIER was willing to withdraw the amendment.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON protested.

The SPEAKER ruled the amendment of the member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) out of order. In putting the original resolution, he said that if it were passed he should endeavour, as far as possible, with the means at his disposal, to enforce it most rigidly.

The motion was then carried amid cheers, no division being called for.

The SPEAKER stated that he would do all he could, with the limited means at his commend, to enforce the order of the House.

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APPOINTMENT OF MR. EDWARD JENKINS

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, in the absence of Hon. Mr. Tupper, moved for all Orders in Council relating to the appointment of Edward Jenkins as Emigrant Agent in London and Agent General for Canada for the United Kingdom and any other office or offices he may hold from Canada.—Carried.

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APPOINTMENT TO PUBLIC OFFICES

Mr. GEOFFRION moved for a return of appointments made to public office between the lst and the 7th of November last.

At the suggestion of Mr. Cameron (Huron South),

Mr. GEOFFRION amended the motion so as to read between the lst October and 7th November.—Carried.

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MANUFACTURING INTERESTS

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) moved for a Select Committee to consider the answers which have been made to a series of questions addressed by the Clerk of the House, since the last session of the last Parliament, to the manufacturers of the Dominion touching their interest, in accordance with the recommendation of a Select Committee of the House of Commons; said Committee to consist of the following members:—Messrs. Chisholm, Irving, Walker, Jetté, Cameron (Huron South), Charlton, Colby, Masson, Ryan, De Cosmos, McDougall (Trois-Rivières), Norris, Blain, Brouse, Buell, and Wood.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested the addition of the name of Mr. Alexander F. Macdonald (Cornwall).

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said no one from the Maritime Provinces was proposed. He suggested the addition of the names of Messrs. Carmichael, from Nova Scotia; Domville, from New Brunswick; and Sinclair, from Prince Edward Island.

Mr. DOMVILLE declined to act.

Mr. MILLS thought free traders ought to be represented on the Committee. He suggested the addition of the member for York North (Mr. Dymond).

Mr. WALKER said he held the opinion that we had abundance of protection by the present tariff, and was opposed to raising the taxes except for purposes of revenue. He believed, however, that he was alone on the proposed Committee, and thought both sides ought to be fairly represented.

After some conversational remarks by Messrs. Wood, Young, Blain, Cauchon and Davies, the rule limiting the number of a Select Committee to fifteen was suspended, and the following names were added:—Messrs. Pickard, Carmichael, Sinclair, Dymond, and Macdonald (Cornwall).

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INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved for a statement regarding Section 13 of the Intercolonial Railway.

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MOTION FOR PAPERS

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) moved for copies of the proclamation of 6th December, 1869, having reference to difficulties which existed in the Northwest in 1869-1870.

Hon. Mr. DORION said all the documents in the possession of the Government would be brought down.

The motion was amended to include correspondence between the Imperial Government and Manitoba direct, and carried.

* * *

THE NORTHWEST TROUBLES

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) moved for a Committee of Nine to enquire into the causes of the difficulties which existed in the Northwest in 1869 and 1870, and into those which have retarded the granting of the amnesty announced in the proclamation issued by the late Governor General of Canada, Sir John Young; and, further to enquire whether, and to what extent, other promises of amnesty have been since made with power to send for persons, papers and records.

In doing so, he said it was well known that the country had been greatly agitated for three of four years on the subject of the troubles in Manitoba and the Northwest in 1869-1870. He believed there was a general desire that a better knowledge should be had of these matters, and he also believed that this could only be done by a thorough investigation into the whole subject. With a view to this end he now desired to ask for a Committee of the House for the purposes specified in the motion.

It was unnecessary to go into particulars with regard to this matter, for there was not one member of the House that did not know there were troubles, and very great and serious troubles, existing there at the time he mentioned. Unfortunately, at this moment, the state of that portion of the country was not such as it ought to be; and in that Province as well as throughout the whole country there was a spirit of dissatisfaction that something definite had not been done in the matter before this time. He believed, as he had already said, that the truth should be elicited by a thorough investigation, and that it was the desire of every member of this House to be fully informed on the subject.

He would say nothing upon the matter except that he looked upon it as a duty to his constituents in Selkirk, as well as to the whole Province of Manitoba, that this motion should be brought before the House, but he could not but regret that it was not offered by someone more competent to deal with it than he was. He would have been glad to see the matter brought up by some member of either the late or present Government. He was sure, seeing that he did not bring it up in any party spirit, that it would be received by the House in the same spirit as it was offered and that all would give their assistance to obtain a thorough knowledge of the whole subject. He drew attention to the fact that the number of the Committee had been altered from seven, as in the original notice, to nine.

Mr. SCHULTZ stated that he would be very happy to support the motion of the hon. gentleman from Selkirk did he feel that the motion would obtain the results claimed for it by the hon. member. He felt, with the mover of the motion, that it was very desirable that those vexed questions should be set at rest, but he did not believe that result would be obtained through the Committee for which the hon. gentleman moved.

In the first place, such a Committee was likely to have a strong political complexion, when thorough impartiality in the matter was to be desired. Again a Committee of the House could only sit during the session of Parliament, and the time was too short to obtain the evidence, which must come from Manitoba, and again, no power was proposed in the motion to enable the Committee to summon persons and procure papers.

He had, with a view of obtaining a thorough and impartial investigation into the disturbances of 1869-1870, placed a motion on the paper for a Royal Commission, which, as its sittings could be at the scene of the disturbances, would be able to obtain facts and elicit information which he firmly believed could not possibly be got by the proposed Committee.

In regard to the amnesty spoken of, he found, on reference to the copy of that document to be found in the blue books of Parliament, that it was dated the 6th December, 1869, and was promulgated at Red River before any really overt act had been committed, at least before blood had been shed. Hon. gentlemen would find that the condition of this amnesty was the laying down of arms; but this had not been done, and the promise, he held, thereupon ceased. In reference to subsequent promises of amnesty, he doubted if such had been made, and thought that if they had, such a Committee were very unlikely to elicit the facts. He would, therefore, on these grounds, and in the hope of procuring a Royal Commission of Enquiry, oppose the motion.

The motion was carried.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) then moved that the following gentlemen be appointed the Committee to which the foregoing resolution refers:—Messrs. Cameron (Cardwell), Bowell, Mitchell, Blake, Moss, Geoffrion, Masson, Jones (Halifax) and the mover.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that as a member of the late Government it might not be conducive to the conduct of the proceedings of the Committee that he should serve upon it personally. He would have no hesitation in doing so, but it might

place both himself and the Committee in a false position.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said he had perfect confidence in the hon. gentleman that he would perform his duties on the Committee faithfully, notwithstanding the objection he had taken; but in deference to his wish he would substitute the name of the Hon. Mr. Abbott (Argenteuil).

The motion, with this alteration, was then carried.

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APPOINTMENTS AND DISMISSALS

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved for a return of all appointments made, or offices conferred, by the Government from the lst day of August last until the 26th day of March instant; also, of all Orders in Council recommending any such appointments, with copies of the same; also, of all increases of salary made, or recommended to be made, between above dates; also, of all dismissals or removals from office, between above dates; also, of all dismissals or removals from office, between the above dates.

He said he made this motion because the most exaggerated accounts had gone to the country as to the number of appointments made immediately anterior to the retirement of the late Government. It had been said something like 300 appointments were then made, and he desired the return to show exactly the state of the facts.

The motion was carried.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA TERMS OF UNION

Mr. DEWDNEY moved for copies of all correspondence with the British Columbia Government relative to the alteration of clauses 10 and 12 of the Terms of Union with Canada, or generally with reference to any relaxation of the Terms of Union. He said that the representatives of British Columbia were sent to this House for the purpose of supporting any Government that would carry out the original terms upon which that Province came into the Union, and he desired to know the intention of the Government with regard to this matter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: There is no such correspondence as the hon. gentleman moves for between this Government and the Government of British Columbia.

Mr. DEWDNEY then withdrew his motion.

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the report of the Committee appointed to strike the Standing Committees of the House.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE proposed that the following gentlemen be on a Select Committee to assist the Speaker in the management of the Library:—Messrs. Abbott, Baby, Brouse, Cartwright, Cameron (Cardwell), Cauchon, Dorion, Fréchette, Holton, Laflamme, Mills, Macdonald (Right Hon. Sir John A.), Smith (Westmorland), Tupper, Young, and the mover.—Carried.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT BUDGET

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that before the orders of the day were called he would like to enquire of his hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) whether he was in a position to state, before the House adjourned for recess, about what time he would be prepared to make his financial statement.

He made this enquiry because he knew that considerable interest was felt throughout the country on the subject. Numerous enquiries had been addressed to members of this House regarding it, and perhaps his hon. friend would enable them to reply to those enquiries in the most comprehensive way—that was to say if he were in a position to make any statement whatever. He disclaimed any desire to press for any statement if the hon. gentleman was unable to give it; but if merely an approximate estimate of the time were given, it would be gratifying to the House and to the country to receive the information.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he hoped the estimates would be in the hands of hon. members of this House immediately upon their return on Wednesday next. (*Hear, hear.*) Of course the hon. member was aware that a little depended upon the printer, but if he succeeded as well as he expected, he thought it probable he should be able to make his financial statement upon the succeeding Friday. He wished his hon. friend to understand that he did not pledge himself absolutely to this; but he thought it probable matters would be so far advanced that he might make his financial statement on Friday week. (*Hear, hear.*)

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AN ANOMALOUS POSITION

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON rose to a question of privilege. The Hon. Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry, Speaker of the Legislature of Prince Edward Island, has been elected to represent one of the Counties of that Province (Prince) in this House. The Statute said any member of the Local House before becoming a candidate for the Dominion House must first place his resignation in the hands of the Speaker, or if the Speaker was absent, in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor; but Mr. Perry was the Speaker himself, and therefore could not place his resignation in the hands of the Speaker, and not being absent, he could not place his resignation in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor.

He referred to the case of the Hon. Mr. Currie, in the Ontario Legislature, where the resignation had been placed in the hands of the Clerk of the House, but the legality of the course had been doubted by some of the hon. gentleman's own friends. In the case, the member had not yet taken his seat, and it was possible that he might have trouble when the case came before the Court.

He brought the matter under the notice of the Government so that proceedings should be immediately taken so that the hon. member might have his seat and the country its representative. A Committee should be appointed to enquire into the matter, and if necessary a

special Act should be passed to install him in his seat.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the case had been correctly represented, and some doubt seemed to exist as to whether the member should take his seat under the circumstances. He thought the case should be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, or to a special Committee of five or six. At any rate, steps would require to be taken to have the constituency represented in the House as soon as possible.

He referred to the case in 1868 when Ministers of the several Provinces found that they were unable to be elected to this House, and in order to meet the case an Act of Indemnity was passed. The case of Mr. McDonald, of Lunenburg, was included in the same Act. He thought it would be well to have the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in this matter, and a recommendation from them either to enable Mr. Perry to take his seat, or to enable Mr. Speaker to issue a writ for a new election. He was not sure but the proper way would be for Mr. Perry to present a petition, stating the facts, and the petition could afterwards be submitted to the Committee. He could well understand why Mr. Perry was unwilling to take his seat, because, according to the Statutes he would be liable to a fine of 500 pounds if at the time of his election he had not properly resigned his seat in the Local House.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) did not so read the Act.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it would be better to refer the matter to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and Mr. Perry should then petition the House, setting forth the circumstances, and this petition should then be referred to the Committee in question. He assumed there was real doubt about the matter, or else the hon. gentleman would have taken his seat.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the reason why he preferred the petition was that it would state the facts.

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THE RIEL ENQUIRY

On the Order of the Day that Hon. Mr. H.J. Clarke, Attorney General of the Province of Manitoba, do appear at the bar to answer questions relative to the indictment laid before the Grand Jury of the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba, and the true bill returned against Louis Riel, member for the electoral district of Provencher, for the murder of Thomas Scott.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON enquired of the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) whether he proposed to go on with the examination of witnesses in the evening, or if not, whether it would not be better to defer the matter entirely until the House met after the holidays.

Mr. BOWELL said that so far as the evidence of Attorney General Clarke was concerned he had completed his examination, and the adjournment was made at the suggestion of the hon. member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau). He did not know at what length his hon. friend might desire to cross-examine the witness, but so far as the policemen were concerned, he (Mr. Bowell) would go through with them in about half an hour.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON reminded the hon. gentleman that many of the members desired to go away in the evening, and it would not be desirable to proceed in their absence.

Mr. BOURASSA suggested that the Orders of the Day should be postponed till Wednesday next.

After some further discussion, it was decided to bring Mr. Clarke and the two policemen to the bar of the House, and as soon as they were in attendance.

Mr. MOUSSEAU moved that the first order of the day be postponed until Wednesday next, that the witnesses at the bar be summoned to appear again at that time, and an order for their examination be the first order for that day.—Carried.

Mr. BOWELL moved that the third order of the day, for the appearance of Louis Riel in his place in the House, be read, which was agreed to and acted upon.

Mr. OUIMET then moved that the order of the day for the appearance of Louis Riel be discharged, and that he be ordered to appear in his place on Wednesday next at the opening of the House.—Carried.

The House then adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, April 7, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at eight o'clock.

Prayers

ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARKE

The SPEAKER informed the House that this afternoon he had received a telegram from the Hon. Henry J. Clarke, Attorney General of Manitoba, a witness ordered to appear at the Bar of the House on Wednesday to the following effect:—"I am badly laid up; it will not be possible for me to get to Ottawa before Thursday evening session of the House." This was sent from Oswego.

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MONTREAL ELECTION COURT

The SPEAKER also laid before the House the general rules of the Montreal Election Court under the provisions of the Controverted Elections Act.

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BANKS

The SPEAKER also laid before the House lists of the stockholders of the Metropolitan Bank to the 6th April, 1874; and of the Bank of Nova Scotia to 28th March, 1874.

* * *

NEW MEMBER

The SPEAKER laid before the House that the Clerk of the House had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery a certificate of the election and return of Edward Borron, Esq., as a member to represent the electoral district of the provisional judicial District of Algoma.

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PETITIONS

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON presented the petition of Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry, member-elect for one of the counties of Prince Edward Island, which he read.

The petition contained statements which were made to the House the other day in reference to this matter. Hon. Mr. Cauchon moved the reception of the petition, which was agreed to. He also gave notice of a motion to refer it to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

A large number of petitions were presented asking for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

PROTECTION

Mr. BAIN presented the petition of the Dundas Cotton Factory Company and thirteen other Companies praying for increased protection to Canadian manufactures.

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THE ELECTION LAW

Hon. Mr. DORION moved for leave to introduce a Bill to elect members of the House of Commons by ballot. He explained that the Bill provided that the Returning Officers at elections shall be the sheriffs or registrars of the counties in which the elections take place. If there are no sheriffs or registrars available the Governor General shall appoint the Returning Officer, and the same shall apply where the registrar or sheriff is unable from any cause to undertake the duties. This, however, was only meant to hold good in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, as on account of their distance from the seat of Government, it was thought better in the other Provinces to give this power to Lieutenant-Governors.

The elections would take place simultaneously over the whole Dominion on some day to be fixed, except in the Provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba, and in the electoral district of Algoma and Muskoka, in the Province of Ontario, and the electoral districts of Bonaventure, Gaspé and Chicoutimi—Saguenay in the Province of Quebec.

Exceptions for these places were made on account of their immense distance from the seat of Government, and almost impossibility of fixing the elections in those parts at the same time they were fixed in other Provinces. It was proposed to do away with the public nomination of candidates—(*Hear, hear*)—and to substitute therefore nomination by paper signed by a certain number of electors. The number of electors so required to sign was a matter of comparative indifference, but that fixed upon as a matter of fact was ten. In England the number was twelve. A day and place would be fixed for the nomination, and during a certain hour of that day the Returning Officer would be present for the purpose of receiving the papers above described.

The property qualification was also abolished. (*Hear, hear.*) It has been found heretofore that this provision was scarcely any protection against persons who had not the necessary property qualification; therefore it was thought better to allow electors to choose those whom they think most fit and qualified.

The next provision—a most important one—was with regard to the ballot. In almost every country having representative institutions the system of voting by ballots had been adopted. If they looked at the reports that were made in the British House of Commons before the adoption of the ballot system there two or three years ago, and by the adoption of the system in several countries, that, where it had

been adopted, it had not been done away with.

This House, in the first session of 1873, by a very significant vote, adopted the principle, so much so that the late Government amended the bill they had introduced by including the ballot system. Of course there were many different modes of voting by ballot. One of them was that which secured the absolute secrecy of the votes of the electors. Such was the principle, he believed, in New Brunswick, in Nova Scotia, and in the Australian provinces. The system of voting by ballot adopted in England, however, was a little different. In the event of a contestation they could ascertain, by the machinery adopted, how certain of the electors had voted. This was done with the view of preventing personation. The Government, however, on comparing the two systems, had given preference to the one by which absolute secrecy was secured.

He had given the two systems a good deal of consideration, and he might say that in Upper Canada the English system had just been adopted. It might therefore be well that they in the Dominion should adopt the other system so that experience might show in a few years which system was the best, and that system might then be adopted.

Another point of importance was that respecting the franchise of electors. The question which arose in the settlement of this matter was whether they should adopt a uniform franchise for every Province; that was, fix a franchise that should prevail in all the Provinces in the election of members to the Dominion Parliament, or whether the Provinces should be allowed to fix the franchise which would be most convenient for them, and which would secure them a proper representation in the House of Commons. The adoption of a uniform franchise would entail considerable expense and difficulty in providing for the making out of the necessary lists.

The Government had come to the conclusion that it would be better to allow each Province to select their own franchise. (*Hear, hear.*)

It might be said against the first system that a uniform franchise might not be equally convenient in all the Provinces. What might be a good franchise in one Province might not be a good franchise in another, on account of the difference of wealth, assessments, et cetera. In the different Provinces they had a franchise for the cities, and another for the counties. It was considered, on the whole, that the franchise in cities and counties ought not to be exactly the same, as the means, wealth and education of the electors of some localities were greater than in others. In one or two Provinces almost the only qualifications necessary to the exercise of the franchise was manhood, and if this were made the uniform system it would create a franchise to which the people of the other Provinces had not been accustomed and which would be distasteful to a large proportion of them. Therefore, it was thought better to adopt the machinery and the lists provided by the Local Legislature. This, it was considered, was more likely to satisfy the people of the several Provinces, as a uniform suffrage would, no doubt, deprive a good many electors of the franchise they now exercised.

The franchise adopted by the Local Legislatures had been adopted in this bill with one exception, namely the Province of Prince Edward Island, for in that Province they had no electoral lists for the elections to the Local Legislature. As, however, the necessary lists were employed in elections to the Legislative Council, that system as applying to the Upper House had been adopted.

He concluded by moving for leave to introduce the bill.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought that the ballot would be a great boon to the people.

With respect to property, the case was different here from what it was in England, where as a rule, candidates were men of wealth. He was not going, however, to oppose a trial of the non-property qualification. He was in favour of the abolition of nominations, which would save in many places a great deal of useless expenditure, as under that system candidates were induced to make a show in order to tell upon the minds of the people, while their antagonists, who might not be so well able to compete with them in a pecuniary way, were often obliged to resort to dishonest practices. He did not think the Government would insist on ten as the number of voters sufficient for a candidate, as the object was not to have an election when there was no need for it.

There were two causes which brought about an election when there was no desire on the part of a constituency to have one. One man might get the required number of votes for a candidate for the purpose of making the candidate spend some money. A good many of that mentality, or rather morality—(*Laughter*)—would put the whole country in a turmoil because they wanted an election for certain purposes of their own. If a candidate could not find one hundred men in his constituency to vote for him that man ought not to be a candidate at all. The interest of the Returning Officer was often another cause of elections, and he would suggest, to meet this, that the salaries of the Returning Officers should be fixed, that he should receive the same salary whether there was an election or not, so that he would have no inducement to promote a contest.

He thought, now that communication was so rapid with certain constituencies in which the election had formerly been held later than in the other counties, there might be a change made in this respect. For instance, in the County of Saguenay the election should have taken place some time before it did, and he thought that the elections in Bonaventure and Gaspé could have taken place at the same time as the others. In Manitoba, or in constituencies further west, there might be some difficulty in having elections as early as elsewhere, but with these exceptions they could, he thought, be all held on one day.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON expressed the great gratification which he felt at the promptitude with which the question of the ballot had been brought forward. The leading points of the bill, as explained by the Hon. Minister of Justice, met fully the expectations of that side of the House, and would be acceptable to both sides and to the whole country. The principles of that bill had been promoted in that House for the last ten years, and in advancing these principles for which they had so long struggled, the Government gave them proof of the sincerity of their zeal.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said that it would be extremely gratifying to his constituency to learn that a measure which had been already

in force in his Province had been thus properly brought forward by the Government. He congratulated the Government on adopting the system of ballot which they had, for it would be found on the whole to be more adapted to the general standard of the voters in the Dominion than the English system.

With regard to the abolition of property qualification for counties, there did seem something anomalous in the fact of property qualification not being necessary for a candidate, while it was for his electors. The simultaneous election question had been happily illustrated by the elections which had just terminated throughout his Province. In Nova Scotia simultaneous elections had been attended with perfect satisfaction, and they often pitied the state of the other Province whose elections were often held from week to week, and sometimes from month to month.

He (Mr. Jones) congratulated the Government not only on the bill, which would be considered more in detail in Committee, but on the promptitude with which it had been brought forward.

Mr. PALMER, who was almost inaudible in the gallery, was understood to confess that the bill met his views quite as far as he expected the bill could. It altered the proceedings in New Brunswick very little but it did away with the nomination, which, so far as New Brunswick was concerned, he would prefer they had left out. He understood that it did injury to other Provinces. With regard to absolute secrecy, however, unless the law was to be different from that in force in New Brunswick, they could not have that, for it was entirely at the option of the voter to declare his vote or not if he pleased. His hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) was mistaken when he said that he (Mr. Palmer) had opposed the Ballot, for he had always advocated it.

Hon. Mr. DORION, in reply to the suggestions which had been made, said with regard to simultaneous elections that it was the desire of the Government to have as many elections on the same day as possible, and he would be glad if members who represented constituencies which had been excepted from the general rule, but who were ready to state how their constituencies were all to have their elections on the same day, would do so.

The question of the fee to the Returning Officers had attracted a great deal of attention, and although a fixed remuneration would certainly take away any inducements for a contest, yet it would considerably increase the cost of an election.

As to the number of electors for nomination, he thought with the member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) that it would do very well to increase it in the cities and large constituencies, but in some there were so few voters that it would be almost impossible for one hundred voters to nominate a candidate. A hundred voters in several constituencies of the Dominion would be an absolute majority in the constituency. The hon. member for St. John (Mr. Palmer) had said that the ballot did not secure absolute secrecy, but he (Hon. Mr. Dorion) had of course only meant it secured absolute secrecy for those who wanted it.

Mr. DYMOND hoped the election law would contain a clause against bribery, et cetera, in which respect the New Brunswick law was admitted to be exceedingly defective.

Hon. Mr. DORION replied that two-thirds of the bill contained the most stringent provisions against the danger which the hon. member for York North (Mr. Dymond) had mentioned. The defect in the bill might be found perhaps in there being too many provisions of that nature. He had endeavoured to meet almost every case that had presented itself. (*Laughter.*)

The bill was read a first time.

* * *

STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved concurrence in the report of the Special Committee appointed to prepare and report lists of the Select Standing Committees of the House. He explained, in the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, that the lists had been prepared as agreed to by him. He had made one change which was really the rectification of an error, having substituted the name of Mr. Wood (Hamilton) for that of Mr. Irving (Hamilton) on the Committee on Banking and Commerce. He moved the resolution tonight, as it was desirable that the Committee on Standing Orders should be organized tomorrow so as to proceed immediately with the consideration.

The motion carried.

* * *

ORDER OF PROCEEDING

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE suggested that it would be convenient for Mr. Speaker, in putting a question, to designate the movers and seconders simply by their names, without prefixes. This would save some trouble, and would be in accordance with the plan previously adopted in the House. He presented the official return of the distribution of the Statutes, as ordered by law.

* * *

CANAL DE LA BAIE VERTE

Mr. PALMER enquired whether it was the intention of Government to construct the Canal de la Baie Verte, and if so, when the work would probably begin.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman would see that it was stated in the Speech from the Throne that the report of the Chief Engineer of the Department would be laid before the House. He would also see when the estimates came down that there was a sum mentioned, as there was in the estimates last year, for the purpose of commencing the work upon the canal. The Government as yet had not been able to determine the route, as the report had scarcely been printed and that question had to be determined before the latter part of the question could be answered.

* * *

THE THOUSAND ISLANDS

Mr. BROUSE asked whether the survey of those Islands in the St. Lawrence known as the Thousand Islands had been completed; if not completed, what progress had been made; also what policy

the Government would pursue in their future disposal.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the surveys had just been completed. The policy of the Government would be that the claims of actual settlers on the Islands would first be considered, and after that the lands which were not settled would be put up to auction by public competition.

* * *

INDIAN COUNCIL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. De COSMOS asked if the Government intended to create a Council in British Columbia for the management of Indian Affairs in that Province; if so, who and how many persons would form the Council and at what salaries; and if the Council would have power to make appointments and also to expend the sums voted by Parliament without first consulting the Minister of the Interior.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the late Government, in June last, passed an Order in Council to establish a Board of Indian Commissioners for British Columbia, not an Indian Council, and the present Government had taken some steps to carry out that arrangement, but they were not yet completed. The Order in Council contemplated a Board consisting of the Governor General and two Commissioners, the first to receive $2,700, and the Assistants $2,000, but no money would be expended without the consent of the Minister of the Interior.

* * *

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. De COSMOS asked if the Government intended to continue this year the geological survey of British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the arrangements respecting the geological survey were not quite complete, but it was the intention of Government to continue the survey.

* * *

STEAMERS BETWEEN SARNIA AND LAKE SUPERIOR

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) enquired if it was the intention of Government to subsidize steamers between Sarnia and Lake Superior, and whether such steamers would be required to call at Kincardine and Southampton.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said the subject was engaging the attention of Government.

* * *

THE AMNESTY QUESTION

Mr. PALMER asked whether it was the intention of Government to apply for an amnesty for all or any, and what, offenses committed by persons engaged in the insurrection of the Northwest Territory in 1869.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of Government to apply for an amnesty for any offenses at present. (*Hear, hear and applause.*)

MR. ARCHIBALD McKELLER

Mr. STEPHENSON had given notice of the following question, which, on its being called, he said he wished to stand: Whether it is the intention of government to appoint the Hon. Archibald McKeller to the office of Commissioner or Superintendent of the Welland Canal, or to any other position on that public work.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I am quite prepared to answer Mr. Stephenson's question, if he desire to put it.

Mr. STEPHENSON: I do not desire to put it. (*Hear, hear, and cries of "Drop".*)

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION

Mr. MASSON moved for a return of correspondence on the subject of Provincial legislation.—Carried.

* * *

FREE ADMISSION OF MACHINERY

Mr. YOUNG moved for a return showing in detail the quantity and character of the machinery admitted into Canada free of duty under the Order in Council admitting free machinery not manufactured in the Dominion, the return to embrace the last three years. He said he desired to ascertain the amount of machinery that had come into the country under that Order in Council.

There was great reason to believe the Order in Council had been used in very many cases for the purpose of embracing a large quantity of machinery which was manufactured in the country at the present time. He considered it necessary that justice should be done to our manufacture interests in this respect. It was not a question that would materially affect Free Trade and Protection, because it was a well-established rule that machinery not manufactured in this country should not pay duty.—Carried.

* * *

ELECTION EXPENSES

Mr. YOUNG moved for a return of all sums paid to defray the expenses of the late elections to this House in the different electoral districts throughout the Dominion, showing the returning officers and deputy returning officers to whom the same were paid, and distinguishing the different services for which the same were allowed.—Carried.

* * *

RAILWAY CARRYING TRADE

Mr. OLIVER moved that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the railway carrying trade of this Dominion, with power to report from time to time, and send for persons, papers, and records. The said Committee should consist of Messrs. Bertram, Brown, Cameron (Huron South), Church, Gordon, Stirton, Thomson (Welland), Archibald, Brooks, Kerr and Oliver.—Carried.

IMPORTATIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG moved for returns showing the total value of each class of manufactured articles imported from the United States into Canada during each month since the commencement of the late financial crises in that country—say the lst of September last—together with similar returns, for the purpose of comparison, for the corresponding months of 1870, 1871 and 1872.—Carried.

* * *

GOVERNMENT MEASURES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that on Thursday he would move that an additional day be given to the Government after this week for their business.

* * *

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER gave notice that on Friday next he would ask leave to introduce the Controverted Election Bill.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 9.15 p.m.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. ROULEAU—Enquiry—Is it the intention of the Government to locate the terminus of the Intercolonial Railway in the town of Lévis, County of Lévis and District of Quebec?

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE—Thursday—Enquiry—Is it intended to appoint an Inspector of Hides and Leathers for the city of Quebec in the stead of Aldéric Fortin, who has provisionally exercised the functions of Inspector since the lst of September, 1873; and does the Government intend to make the appointment at once?

Hon. Mr. BLAKE—Bill to regulate the construction and maintenance of Marine Electric Telegraphs.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE—Thursday—Address for correspondence between the Federal Government and the Government of Quebec in relation to the re-organization of the Court of Appeal in the Province of Quebec.

Mr. JONES (Halifax)—Committee of the Whole on a resolution, "That it is expedient to amend the Act 30 Vic., Cap. 49, entitled an Act to amend and consolidate and to extend to the whole Dominion of Canada the laws respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce, so far as relates to pickled fish and fish oils."

Mr. BODWELL—Committee of the Whole on the following resolutions: 1st—That the traffic in intoxicating liquors is an evil for which the laws of this country provide no adequate remedy. 2nd—That it is desirable to prohibit the importation, manufacture, and sale of intoxicating liquors in this Dominion, except for medical and manufacturing purposes.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—Thursday—To refer the petition of Stanislaus Francis Perry, member for the electoral district of the Province of Prince Edward Island, to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, when the said Committee is appointed by the House.

Mr. IRVING—Monday—Enquiry whether it is intended to introduce this session a Bill to repeal the Act passed in the 35th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act to amend the Criminal Law relating to violence, threats and molestation", and generally known as the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—Thursday—That after the present week, and during the remainder of the session, measures in charge of members of the Government shall take precedence on the orders of the day.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)—Monday next—Committee of the Whole on a resolution—That the present mode of constituting the Senate does not adequately provide for the equitable territorial representation of the people of this Dominion, nor for a full and direct expression of the popular will that can make the Senate directly responsible to the people.

Mr. PALMER—Bill to repeal the law relating to usury.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER—Bill to make better provisions for the trial of Controverted Elections of members of the House of Commons, and respecting the matters connected therewith.

Mr. DYMOND—Thursday—Address for a return of all commitments for capital offenses in the Dominion since lst July, 1867, with convictions and acquittals resulting therefrom, and punishments inflicted, or pardons or commutations of sentence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 8, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

NEW MEMBER

The SPEAKER informed the House that the Clerk of the House had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery a certificate of the election and return of Harvey William Burk as member to represent the electoral district of the West riding of Durham.

* * *

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions were presented in favour of the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, among which were the following:—Mr. Dymond—from the Township Councils of Whitechurch, North Gwillimbury, East Gwillimbury, and Aurora and from the inhabitants of East Gwillimbury, Sharon and Newmarket, all in the North riding of the County of York, Mr. Cameron (Ontario South)—from 1,592 inhabitants of the county he represents, and a number of others with a few signatures; Mr. Kerr—from 3,000 inhabitants of the County of Northumberland; and Mr. Carmichael (Pictou)—from 3,500 people in his own constituency. Petitions were also presented by Messrs. Macdonald (Glengarry), Kirkpatrick, Cartwright, Blake, Bodwell, Mackenzie (Lambton), and Norris, and a great many others from private individuals and municipalities throughout the country, praying for the same.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) also presented a petition from a number of manufacturers in favour of a protective tariff.

* * *

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought up a message from His Excellency, signed by his own hand.

The SPEAKER read the message, as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

I thank you for your loyal address, and am well assured that all measures for the well-being of the country will receive your diligent attention.

(Signed) Dufferin

Government House,

Ottawa

April 8, 1874

* * *

AMNESTY QUESTION

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said that there seemed to be a misunderstanding with reference to the answer given by the Premier last night to the question of Mr. Palmer, as to whether the Government intended to apply for an amnesty for persons who were engaged in the insurrection to the Northwest. He read in the report of The *Times* of this morning the following as the answer to the question:—"Hon. Mr. Mackenzie—It was not the intention of the Government to apply for an amnesty." He (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) believed this answer was not complete, and he would like to know from the Premier what his answer was exactly.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: My reply was: "It is not the intention of the Government to apply for an amnesty for any offenses at present." (*Hear, hear.*)

* * *

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Mr. YOUNG moved that a message be sent to the Senate requesting that their Honours will unite with this House in the formation of a Joint Committee of both Houses on the subject of Parliamentary printing, and that Messrs. Bourassa, Bowell, Church, Delorme, De Veber, Goudge, Lantier, Laird, Ross (Middlesex West), Ross (Prince Edward), Stephenson, Stirton, Thompson (Haldimand), Willson and Young be members of the said Joint Committee on Printing.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON moved that the petition of Mr. Perry of Prince Edward Island be sent to the Clerk of the Committee on Privileges and Elections.—Carried.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the Report of the Minister of Agriculture for the last year.

* * *

MARINE HOSPITAL

Mr. PALMER enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to place any sum in the Estimates for the purpose of building a suitable Marine Hospital, at the port of St. John, New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government have the matter and several other matters in connection with the same subject under consideration at present.

MR. ARCHIBALD McKELLER

Upon the order for the question by Mr. Stephenson, whether it is the intention of Government to appoint the Hon. Archibald McKeller to the office of Commissioner or Superintendent of the Welland Canal, or to any other position on that public work.

Mr. STEPHENSON requested that it be dropped. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*)

* * *

THE GUN BOAT *PRINCE ALFRED*

Mr. STEPHENSON enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to place the gun boat *Prince Alfred* in a condition for actual service in the way of rendering aid to vessels in distress, and otherwise performing functions similar to those pertaining to the revenue cutters belonging to the United States on the western lakes.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government have had a survey of the vessel made recently, with a view to deciding what service she may be fit for. It has not yet been decided what would be done with her, but I may say to my hon. friend that I am afraid she will not be fit for the services he refers to.

* * *

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. BODWELL moved for a Special Committee on petitions for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law, with power to send for persons and papers and the Committee to be composed of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Appleby, Béchard, Bowell, Burpee (Sunbury), Blake, Cameron (Ontario South), Chisholm, Cunningham (New Westminster), Davies, Forbes, Killam, Ryan, Ross (Middlesex West), Smith (Selkirk) and Bodwell.

After a few words from Hon. Mr. Cauchon,

Mr. KILLAM requested that his name be struck off, and that of Mr. Carmichael substituted.

Mr. BODWELL said the hon. member had been on the Committee for a similar purpose last year, where he had proved himself very energetic and useful. Not knowing that he had any objection to serving in the same capacity upon this occasion, he (Mr. Bodwell) had put his name down, but as there were no doubt good reasons for the hon. member declining he had no objection to the substitution of the name of Mr. Carmichael.

The motion was altered accordingly, and carried.

* * *

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. BUNSTER moved for a Select Committee of ten members to enquire into the present tariff in the interest of agriculture and commerce in British Columbia. In doing so he remarked that the farmers in that Province were suffering greatly from excessive competition by Americans; and the want of protection, coupled with the fact that the Pacific Railway had not yet been commenced, was acting as a great drawback to settlement, and was sending many agriculturists out of the country.

If the committee were granted, he hoped to be able to show that protection of some kind was necessary, at least until the completion of the railway, which he hoped would be soon. He contended that every acre of land cleared in that Province was worth $50 to the Dominion, and in conclusion moved that the following gentlemen compose the committee, viz.:—Messrs. McQuade, McCallum, Brouse, Dewdney, Cunningham (New Westminster), De Cosmos, Roscoe, Schultz, Paterson and Bunster.

The motion was carried.

* * *

DEMANDS AGAINST VESSELS

Mr. KIRKPATRICK moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on a resolution making further provision for the collection of demands against vessels navigating certain lakes and inland waters of Canada. He did not propose to discuss the principle involved in this resolution at any length at the present time. He was certain that those persons who were interested in the maritime trade of the country looked with great concern to the action that might be taken by the House in this matter.

It was rather unfortunate that the great maritime trade of the inland waters of this country was an exception to that of all other countries having such a trade, in having no law providing speedy, safe and certain means for the collection of demands against vessels. In France, in England, in our own Maritime Provinces, and in the United States they had such a law, but for our inland waters where the trade was yearly increasing, and millions of dollars were involved, there was none. He held that we should have an Admiralty Court for our inland waters.

The object of his motion was to secure the passage of a law, similar to that now in force on the American side of the lake, for Canadian inland waters, so that vessels might be held for the supplies furnished them on credit. Such a measure would be a benefit to the owners of vessels, as well as to ship chandlers, mariners, and ship companies. If, for instance, ship chandlers ran great risk of not being paid for their goods, they must charge an extra profit to compensate themselves. If the means of collecting their claims were made speedy and certain, their prices would be materially reduced, and the honest ship-owner would get his stores cheaper than he now does. He (Mr. Kirkpatrick) hoped that there would be no objection to the passage of that resolution through Committee, and that any discussion on it would be postponed till another stage of the proceedings.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that his hon. friend must move the reference of his resolution to a Committee on another day. Being opposed, root and branch, to this motion, and having, during the last twenty years, assisted in preventing its passage at least a dozen times, he (Hon. Mr. Holton) was not willing to waive this rule of the House.

The SPEAKER ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK then gave notice that he would move tomorrow that the House go into Committee on the motion.

PORT STANLEY HARBOUR

Mr. CASEY moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the management of the Port Stanley Harbour since 1859, said committee to consist of Messrs. MacLennan, Norris, Irving, Cockburn, Stuart, and Casey. He said that in 1859 this harbour, which up to that time had been managed by Government, was transferred to the London and Port Stanley Railway Company, on condition that all the revenue of the harbour was to be expended in keeping it in repair. Since then the harbour, as well as the Port Stanley Railway Co., had been transferred to the Great Western Railway Company, and the harbour had fallen into bad repair.

The object he had in moving this resolution was to find out what had become of the revenues of the harbour; whether the Railway Company had carried out the trust reposed in them; whether they had appropriated these revenues properly, or done something else with them. The suspicion was pretty strong that the money had not been expended in the way in which it should have been, or the harbour would be in better condition that it is at present. He could give evidence with regard to this point if the Committee were granted.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he hoped his hon. friend would not press his motion today. He thought that he should in the first place ask for such papers or information as the Government could give with regard to the matter, and then, if he still thought a Committee was necessary, he could move for one. It was quite possible his hon. friend could get all the information he required by applying to the Department, but if not Government would offer no objection to a motion to send for persons and papers.

Mr. CASEY said that he had all the papers last session that could be got, with reference to the matter up to that time. He would, however, allow his motion to stand. He moved for the production of additional papers which the Government might have on the subject.

* * *

CONDITION OF SIX NATIONS INDIANS

Mr. PATERSON moved for a Committee to enquire into the affairs of the Six Nations Indians in the counties at Brant and Halton, said committee to have power to report from time to time, and to send for persons and papers, and to consist of Messrs. Scatcherd, Oliver, Snider, Thompson (Haldimand), Ross (Middlesex West), Fleming, Rymal, Charlton, White (Hastings East), Gillies and Paterson. He said that these Indians were the descendants of men whose forefathers had spilled their blood in the defence of this country, and it would be the last thought he would have in his mind, in moving such a resolution as this, to do them any injustice.

Without desiring to reflect in the least on the management of the Department or on any of the officers, or on the system that had been pursued with reference to these Indians, he would say that such progress had not been made in improving their condition as there should have been, and it was felt, both by the Indians themselves and by their white neighbours, that the time had come when some steps should be taken to put them in a position to conduct their own affairs instead of having them still managed, as heretofore, by the Government. What those steps should be it was not for him to say, but he thought that if the House was kind enough to grant this Committee there might be such information elicited as would guide it in devising some scheme by which the condition of these Indians might be improved.

He held that in the case of these Indians, as in that of children, the keeping of them under a paternal guidance would not tend to the development of their intellects; a change somewhat radical was called for in the management of their affairs, for they did not now occupy a much different position from what they did years ago. He might be asked, why not include all the Indians in the Dominion in this motion? The reason was that all the bodies of Indians in the country would not be treated alike. Some were in a much more backward state than others, and therefore he felt that it was best to confine his motion to those Indians in the County of Haldimand.

Mr. PLUMB enquired if the Indians themselves had asked for any action to be taken in their behalf.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said not that he was aware of. Some inconveniences resulted from the Government having the guardianship of the Indians, but they could only consent to such changes in the present management of affairs as would be assented to by the Indians themselves and would not seriously interfere with their prosperity and happiness. They were all aware of the inconvenience occasioned to the whites in certain parts of the country by the proximity of the Indian reservations, but they must remember that it was through these reservations being made that the whites were enabled to settle down quietly in the vicinity. They should recollect also that the Indians were driven into small corners here and there over the country.

It was the duty of Government to see that the rights the Indians have are not interfered with by any hasty action; but the Government would have no objection to an enquiry as to what might be done with reference to improving their position, as well as that of the whites surrounding them. He did not understand that the motion contemplated enquiry into any abuse.

Mr. FLEMING said it was a question whether or not the condition of the Indians would be improved by enfranchising them.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) said the Indians of the County of Haldimand, as well as those of the adjoining County of Brant, had serious grievances to complain of, and he had represented them to Government previously, but without producing much effect. He had a petition in his possession, signed by 169 chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations, and another signed by 51 members of another tribe, both with reference to this matter. The people in the county he represented had been looking forward to the time when the lands held by the Indians would be put into the market, and it was with this view that his friend from Brant South (Mr. Paterson) had moved for this Committee.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) asked if it might not be well for the Committee to take into consideration the condition of all the Indians throughout this Province settled on Indian reserves. He thought the day was at hand when the Government would have to

adopt some different system of dealing with the Indians. He did not think that the system at present pursued was conducive to either the welfare of the Indians or the civilization of the whites living near them. In the County of Middlesex there were 12,500 acres of land in the hands of Indians, and it was lying there an uncultivated waste. He would strongly advocate the land thus held in his riding being put into the market. He did not wish, however, to do away with the rights of the Indians, and eulogized the British authorities for the fair play they had given to the aborigines.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD, whose remarks were almost inaudible in the gallery, was understood to object to selling the Indian lands. He saw no objection to the motion as first proposed by Mr. Paterson, but thought, if the wide range was to be taken as suggested by other members, it was only fair that definite complaints should first be made to the Department.

Mr. GILLIES said that he was very much pleased with the suggestion of the member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross) relative to extending the scope of the motion. In the riding in which he resided there were large tracts of Indians lands, and for years there had been but little satisfaction with the way in which the affairs of those Indians occupying them had been managed. He found that meetings had recently been held by both the Indians and the whites residing near them, at which it was agreed that petitions should be forwarded to this House, asking that the lands which were given to the Indians some years ago should be disposed of at such prices as they would fetch. The Indians desired that they should be allowed to hold their land in their own right, and if this were permitted they would have an individuality, and feel a disposition to act upon their own behalf.

He hoped the member for Brant South (Mr. Paterson) would allow the Select Committee to have power to investigate into the condition of the affairs of other Indians as well as the Six Nations, and he (Mr. Gillies) hoped to be able to put into the hands of that committee information with reference to the Indians in his part of the country.

Mr. GORDON hoped the motion would be so amended as to extend to the whole Dominion. He complained that Indian lands were not being improved, and in consequence no benefit was done to the Indians. Indeed a wrong was done to the white man. He admired as much as any other the good faith which had been kept by the British government in the matter. He thought, however, that the land which had been set apart for the purpose was an injury to the settlers.

Mr. SNIDER said he sympathized very strongly with the Indians, but very much more with the white men. Nevertheless, he was in a position to act fairly between them in this case. All that he desired was that the settlers upon the barren Indian lands, which some time ago were bought up at a great price, should receive justice at the hands of the Indian Department. They had not been fairly dealt with by the late Government, but he had more confidence in the present Administration, who, he trusted, would see that justice was done in the premises. He considered that many of the Indians were extremely intelligent and entitled to the privilege of the franchise.

Mr. McGREGOR made some remarks, but was utterly inaudible in the gallery. He was understood to say that he approved of the franchise being extended to the Indians.

Mr. DAVIES said that so far as his experience in Prince Edward Island went, though several efforts had been made to civilize the Indians, they appeared to be incapable of appreciating the blessing of civilization. They enjoyed their lands, he believed, in common. The lands had not been divided among individuals, and if the lands were so divided they would soon pass into the hands of white people, and the poor Indians would be nowhere. They were bound to do justice to the Indians. (*Hear, hear.*)

In enfranchising the Indians in the more favoured settlements of Ontario, they should take care it was not tantamount to wiping them out. If it were desirable to get rid of the Indians, they might induce them to settle on the Thousand Islands. The lands which they had, they did not cultivate, and he believed they never would. He thought, however, the division of the lands among them would be tantamount to driving them out of the country.

Mr. SCHULTZ did not find in the motion any reference to the franchise, or to the operations of the reserve system. He contended that to detach the reserves would ultimately lead to the utter annihilation of the Indians. It was not possible that the size of the reserves in question conduced to the benefit of the Indians, and he thought an improvement might be made.

He thought both the Department and the House would be benefited by such an enquiry as this, and he would like to see the motion adopted. He was also desirous of seeing as large a committee as possible appointed, because this was a matter involving a principle which would sooner or later affect the people of the West.

Mr. PATERSON said he was willing to enlarge the motion according to the request of various members if he could do so upon the notice already given, and provided the Government were willing to accede to the change. He was afraid, however, from the remarks of the leader of the Government that the Administration would not be in favour of the change. He denied that he had any wish in the least degree to reflect upon the Department, either as at present conducted or under the former management. The representations made to him might not have been correct, and hence he contended the desirability of an enquiry.

Mr. DAVIES objected to the enfranchisement of the Indians, as he did not consider they would value that privilege; he asserted that if the Indians became possessed of portions of the land they would sell it for liquor.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought it would be extremely inconvenient to appoint a Committee to enquire into the whole question affecting Indian life, character and position on the Continent, and it was quite evident that such a Committee could produce no possible result. If there was to be a change of policy with regard to the Indians, that change must originate with the Government.

At the same time they would not object to any enquiry which the

House might desire with regard to the several localities and tribes to which particular members might be desirous of referring. He was aware that in several of the cases referred to by his honorable friends the difficulty was that Indians kept possession of lands in prominent parts of the country which they did not cultivate. The Government was bound to exercise the wise discretion, and sometimes probably the wise pressure, which a guardian observed with regard to his ward. The Government had received no such petition of charge as that referred to by the hon. member for Haldimand (Mr. Thompson), and he believed the complaint arose out of the rather strict exercise of his duty by the superintendent.

The Government would not object to the Committee which the hon. member for Brant South (Mr. Paterson) had moved for, but it would be extremely inconvenient to have a Committee of a general character which would have power to inquire into all the matters and grievances of the Indians. It would, therefore, be better for gentlemen who had particular cases to complain of to ask for the papers containing the necessary information, and, if it were desirable, make further examination by a Committee of the House. He thought it would be better to allow the hon. gentleman's motion to pass as it stood.

The motion was then carried in its original form.

* * *

THE RIEL CASE

On the orders of the day being called,

The Clerk read the first order, as follows:

"Hon. H.J. Clarke, Attorney General of the Province of Manitoba, to appear at the Bar to answer questions relative to the indictment laid before the Grand Jury of the Queen's Bench of Manitoba, and the true bill returned by the said Grand Jury against Louis Riel, member for the electoral district of Provencher, for the murder of Thomas Scott."

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said that remembering the telegram received by Mr. Speaker yesterday from Mr. Clarke, he supposed the House would consent to the postponement of this order. He moved "That the order of the day for the attendance of Mr. Clarke, and the two following orders of the day, do stand over till Friday next at 3 o'clock, then to be the first, second and third orders of the day." The second order was as follows:—"Louis Riel, Esq., member for the Electoral District of Provencher, to attend in his place." The third order was:—"Detective Philip Hamilton, of the Ottawa police force, to appear at the bar to be examined in the matter of the warrant for the arrest of Louis Riel."

The SPEAKER: Is Mr. Clarke in attendance?

The SERGEANT-AT-ARMS (after exploring the lobby): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Henry J. Clarke is not in attendance.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON then repeated his motion.

Mr. BOWELL said he would have no objection to the postponement of the order for the attendance of Attorney General Clarke, but he saw no reason for the postponement of the two other orders. The detective ordered to appear was, he believed, in attendance; and besides that, the Finance Minister had announced his intention to make his budget speech on Friday, so that if the motion were carried, the whole matter would lie over till next week. The second order had been delayed from last week, and there was no reason why it should not now be called. The third order might certainly be called, as the witness was in attendance.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought they should proceed logically. The first and most important business was the evidence of the Attorney General of Manitoba, and it was only in corroboration of his evidence that the police officer was to be called. He thought, therefore, the evidence of that gentleman should be completed. If it turned out that the Attorney General was too sick to attend at all, then they might proceed without him, but at the present time it was only fair and logical that the whole thing should stand over.

Mr. SCHULTZ agreed with the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell). He did not see any connection between the postponement of the order for the attendance of Mr. Clarke and the two other orders. The more quickly the House disposed of a matter so interesting to everybody, either in or out of the House, the better. The cause which had detained Mr. Clarke today might detain Mr. Riel another day, and thus there might be an indefinite postponement of the whole matter.

Mr. BOWELL said he would like to say the evidence he desired to prove by the detective had nothing whatever to do with Attorney General Clarke. The evidence was totally separate and distinct, and therefore did not corroborate anything that the hon. gentleman had said in his evidence.

He desired to state further that, so far as his case, as the hon. member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) had put it, was concerned, he took it to be the case of the House and not his individually, and all he desired to prove by Attorney General Clarke had been proved. He did not desire his services any more. The evidence in that particular was complete. He would like to ask, as a question of order, whether it was regular to move to set aside three orders of the day in one motion, and whether they should not be taken separately as called.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought there could be no doubt that it was quite in order to move the postponement of all the orders of the day in one motion. It was frequently done here, and in England it was necessary to move the postponement of all the orders of the day before the House adjourned. By parity of reasoning it must be in order here to move that the orders of the day be postponed. He would say, however, with regard to the merits of the motion, that it did appear to him to be logical and in consequence he was quite sure, with the opinion of his learned friends the members of the legal profession, that the direct examination or the cross-examination of one witness should be completed before another witness was put on the stand. This seemed to him to be the common sense view of the matter.

Mr. PALMER agreed with his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) on the point of order but he would ask his hon.

friend from Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) whether it would not be well to alter his motion. He could not see any reason why the policeman should be brought here on Friday. He was in attendance, and when he was required to prove a distinct and independent fact, he thought he should be called.

The SPEAKER thought the motion was quite in order. It was almost an everyday practice to entirely defer the orders of the day in order to proceed with some other matter.

Mr. PALMER moved an amendment that the first order of the day be postponed till tomorrow, and then be the first order of the day.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he thought the object of the motion of his hon. friend from Quebec Centre would be obtained by postponing the three orders until tomorrow instead of Friday.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: I have no object to that.

Hon. Mr. DORION said Mr. Clarke would be here tomorrow at half-past seven, and Friday might be an inconvenient day if the financial statement was to be then made.

Mr. BOWELL said he objected to the postponement of the second and third orders at all; in the first place, because the matter might have been taken up last week, and secondly, because there was no connection between the examination of Mr. Clarke and that of Detective Hamilton. He did not object to the postponement of the examination of Mr. Clarke until tomorrow or next day.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved an amendment to the amendment that the first, second and third order of the day be postponed until tomorrow, then to stand as the first, second and third orders of the day.

The amendment to the amendment was carried on a division.

* * *

THE BUDGET SPEECH

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he desired to mention to the House that when he intimated in reply to his hon. friend the member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) that he would make his budget speech on Friday, he made it expressly dependent on his being able to put the estimates into hands of hon. members of the House today; and that, as he then told the House, was always a matter of doubt, as there was a difficulty in getting these masses of figures through the printer's hands. As he had not been able to get a revised copy of the estimates yet, he must perforce postpone the budget announcement from Friday.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought it would be desirable that it should be understood that the orders would be taken on each day after these which had precedence had been disposed of—that is, that on Government days, if the Government orders were got through with at a reasonable hour, private orders should be taken up, and that on private members' days Government orders should be taken up after the private orders had been disposed of. In that way the Government would be able to get their measures advanced at least a formal stage nearly every day in the early part of the session.

Unless this course were adopted, he doubted whether his hon. friend, the Minister of Finance, would be able to get on with his statement as soon as he anticipated, as judging by the Speech from the Throne it was to be apprehended that the statement would have to be made in Committee of Ways and Means, and not in Committee of Supply.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE quite agreed with the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) and remarked that the hon. gentleman had recommended a similar course from the other side of the House last year. If it were agreeable to the House, the system would be adopted in the future. That was to have all the orders printed every day till they reached the end of the paper, whether Government orders or private orders had precedence.

After a few words from Hon. Mr. Holton,

The House adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—That he will on Friday move for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Act respecting the Intercolonial Railway.

Mr. BIGGAR—That he will enquire of the Government on Friday next whether it is the intention of the Government to place a sum in the Estimates for the purpose of improving Presqu'Ile Harbour, on Lake Ontario.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South)—On Friday next—Address for returns showing the amounts expended by the several Local Governments on all harbours, piers, and breakwaters in the Dominion prior to 1867, and since July 1867 by the Dominion Government; and also the amount expended on all such works by any local companies, municipal authorities, Railway Companies, Harbour Commissioners, or any other Companies or persons, before or since July 1st, 1867.

Mr. McCALLUM—That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying to cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence, if any, between Government and G. Neilson & Co., contractors for enlarging and deepening the harbour of Port Colborne, on Lake Erie, in reference to said contract; also a statement giving the number of yards of rock removed and the quantity of other work done by the said contractors on the said harbour, and the amount of money paid the said contractors for such work, and the length of time occupied in doing the said work by the said contractors; and, further, a statement giving the number of yards of rock yet to be removed, and the amount of other work necessary to be done to complete the said harbour suitable for entrance to the Welland Canal and Lake Erie when enlarged and the amount of money required to complete the said harbour.

Mr. De COSMOS—On Friday next—That a respectful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that a

copy of the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria, B.C., respecting the cancelling of the mail contract with the owners of the steamship *Prince Alfred*, and contracting with Malcolm Hudson & Co. for their steamships to call twice a month at Esquimalt when making the voyage to San Francisco, China, and Japan, and *vice versa*, be laid before the House.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County)—On Friday—Motion, that this House do on Tuesday next go into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—that it is expedient to continue the 2nd and 3rd sections of the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 40, respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island, until lst January, 1875, and thence to the end of the next session of Parliament.

Mr. PALMER—That an humble address be presented to His Excellency to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence which had taken place since lst July, 1867, between the Government of the Dominion and the Judges of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, touching the inequality of the salaries of the Judges of the same standing in different Provinces, and of any representation on the same subject made by the Bar Society of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Mr. GORDON—Address to His Excellency the Governor in Council for a return of Order in Council selling or leasing Whitby Harbour to the present Company; also for a statement of all sums paid to Government by the said Harbour Company from the date of the said Order in Council to the present time on account of purchase of lease of the said Harbour; also for a statement of the annual revenue and expenditure from and upon the said Harbour throughout the occupancy of the said Company; also for all correspondence between Government and the said Harbour Company concerning said lease or purchase, and having reference to removal or permanency of the same; also for the names of all persons forming the said Harbour Company, whether it is the intention of Government to resume possession of the said Harbour.

Mr. MILLS will, on Monday next, ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act to provide for the removal of obstructions in navigable rivers."

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North)—On Friday next—Enquiry whether Government intends to place in the estimates an appropriation for the purpose of constructing Locks at Paquette's Rapids and Allumette Rapids, in the Ottawa River, or for other improving navigation at those points, so as to admit of the passage of steamers.

Mr. DEWDNEY—On Tuesday next—That it is desirable that Government cause such further surveys for the Canadian Pacific Railway to be made between Kamloops and Fort Hope, on the Fraser River, as will determine the best available line for a railway between those points, and at the same time establish beyond question whether that route is not the most favourable as being the shortest, and therefore least expensive to construct as well as operate, through British Columbia to the best seaport on the Western coast of the Dominion.

Mr. STEPHENSON gives notice that on Friday next he will enquire of the Government whether any instructions have been given to any person or persons to buy out the Canadian channel in Detroit River below and in the vicinity of the town of Amherstburg; and if not, whether it is the intention of Government to take any steps in that direction; also whether a lightship is to be maintained during the present season of navigation at Government expense on a dangerous reef in Lake Erie, opposite the township of Colchester, in the County of Essex.

Mr. YOUNG:—On Friday next—A Bill entitled An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Confederation Life Association.

Mr. CASEY:—Address for papers in possession of the Government of later date than the return made last session in reference to Port Stanley Harbour.

Mr. McINTYRE gives notice that he will on Monday ask the Government if it is their intention to abolish postage on newspapers.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand):—Enquiry of Government whether the Hon. Wm. McDougall is still in the employ of the Government in any capacity, if so, at what salary; if not in Government employ, when he ceased to be employed.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South):—On Friday next—Enquiry of the Government as to the state of the affairs of the Bank of Upper Canada, when its business is likely to be wound up, and whether any determination has been come to with regard to enforcing against the stockholders Government claims which will be unpaid when the assets have been realized.

Mr. STEPHENSON gives notice that on Monday next, he will move an humble address to His Excellency for copies of all letters, petitions, resolutions, communications, reports, and other documents, and papers relating in any way to the sale or disposal of that portion of land situate in the town of Chatham, and known as the Barrack Ground, received since 1867.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South):—On Friday next—For a Select Committee to enquire into the state of the Quebec Office for Culling and Measuring Wood, and to recommend, with a view to efficiency and economy, such changes in the regulations and staff in and out of the office as may be required by the existing circumstances and dimensions of the Quebec timber trade;—the Committee to consist of ——, and to have the power of sending for persons, papers, and records.

Hon. Mr. DORION gives notice that he will on Friday next move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of Criminal Justice in Ontario cases as respects the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. BOURASSA:—On Thursday next—Enquiry of Ministers whether any correspondence has taken place between the Government of Canada and the Quebec Government in relation to the transfer of certain properties at Chambly, Saint-Jean, Quebec, or elsewhere for the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum for the Province of Quebec.

Mr. SCHULTZ:—On Friday next—Whether it is the intention

of Government to make grants of land to half-breed heads of families, and the old settlers in Manitoba; whether Government has decided to grant to the present holders the hay lands in Manitoba.

Mr. COSTIGAN:—On Friday next, will move that an address be voted to Her Majesty representing that it is essential to the peace and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada that the several religions therein prevailing should be followed in perfect harmony by those professing them, in accord with each other, and that every law passed either by this Parliament or by the Local Legislatures disregarding the rights and usages tolerated by one of such religions is of a nature to destroy that harmony; that the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in 1871 adopted a law respecting Common Schools, forbidding the imparting of any religious education to pupils and, that that prohibition is opposed to the sentiments of the entire population of the Dominion in general and to the religious conviction of the Roman Catholic population in particular; that the Roman Catholics of New Brunswick cannot conscientiously send their children to schools established under such law, and are nevertheless compelled, like the remainder of the population, to pay taxes to be devoted to the maintenance of those schools; that the said law is unjust and contrary to the spirit of the Constitution, and causes much uneasiness among the Roman Catholic population disseminated throughout the whole Dominion of Canada; and that such a state of affairs, if continued, is likely to prove a cause of disastrous results to all the Confederated Provinces, and praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to cause an Act to be passed amending the British North America Act of 1867, in the sense which this House believes to have been intended at the time of the passage of the said Act, by providing that every religious denomination in the Province of New Brunswick shall continue to possess and enjoy all such rights, advantages, and privileges with regard to their schools as such denomination possessed and enjoyed in that Province at the time of the passage of the said Act to the same extent as if such rights, advantages and privileges had been then duly established by law.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 9, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE

The SPEAKER informed the House that the Speaker of the Senate had stated to him that it was the wish of that body that a resolution passed in the House in 1867 should be carried fully into effect, and that messages from this House should be taken to the Senate by one of the clerks, as business had frequently been interrupted by the introduction of messages by members of the House. He had agreed with the Speaker of the Senate, subject to the wish of this House, that messages should be sent to that body by one of the clerks as Bills were now sent.

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BANKS

The SPEAKER laid before the House lists of shareholders in the Ontario Bank to the 31st March, 1874, and in La Banque de Saint-Jean to the 4th April, 1874.

* * *

NEW BRUNSWICK ELECTION COURT

The SPEAKER laid before the House the general rules of the Election Court for the Province of New Brunswick.

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PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. CHISHOLM presented a petition praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

A large number of other petitions praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law were also presented.

Mr. PICKARD moved that the petitions in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law be complied with. (*Laughter.*)

* * *

PETITIONS

Mr. MOSS presented the petition of H.S. Howland and others, praying for an Act to incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Company; also a petition in favour of the protection of native industries.

* * *

STANDING ORDERS

Mr. RYMAL presented the first report of the Committee on Standing Orders reporting several bills.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

Hon. Mr. HOLTON:—To amend the Act Incorporating the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company; also, to amend the Act incorporating the Canadian and Great Northern Telegraph Company.

Mr. YOUNG:—To amend the Act incorporating the Confederation Life Association.

Mr. IRVING:—A Bill entitled the "Grand Trunk Railway Amendment Act of 1874".

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said before the hon. gentleman could take any progress with the Bill he must get the consent of the Crown, as it might involve the rights which the Government had in the Company.

Mr. IRVING said he would act upon the suggestion of his hon. friend.

Mr. CHARLTON:—To prevent cruelty to animals while in transit by railway or other means of transport.

Mr. ROSS (Durham East):—To incorporate the London and Canada Bank.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE:—To regulate the construction and maintenance of marine electric telegraphs.

Mr. THOMSON (Welland):—To incorporate the Niagara Grand Island Bridge Company.

Mr. COCKBURN introduced a bill to incorporate the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Company.

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THE ESTIMATES

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT brought down a message from His Excellency, signed by his own hand.

The SPEAKER read the Message as follows:

Dufferin, the Governor General, transmits the estimates of sums required for the services of the Dominion for the year ending June 30, 1875; and in accordance with the provisions of the British North America Act of 1867 he recommends these estimates to the House of Commons.

Government House, Ottawa,

April 9th, 1874.

ESTIMATES FOR 1874-1875

Estimated expenditure for the financial year ending 30th June 1874, together with the sums granted for the financial year ending 30th June 1875.

* * *

SERVICES

Public debt, including Ontario and Quebec Trust Funds	$12,376,037
Charges of management	207,072
Civil Government	946,881
Administration of Justice	494,161
Police	62,895
Penitentiaries	341,155
Legislation	572,953
Arts, agriculture, and statistics	94,680
Immigration and quarantine	357,640
Pensions	123,184
Militia, including Mounted Police in the Northwest	1,313,500
Public Works, chargeable to capital	11,606,625
Public Works, chargeable to income	2,723,300
Ocean and river service	400,397
Lighthouse and coast service	524,980
Fisheries	62,185
Geological Survey and observatories	92,550
Marine Hospitals and sick and distressed seamen	75,000
Steamboat Inspection	14,200
Subsidies, including P.E.I.	3,757,464
Indians	149,100
Boundary surveys	119,198
Miscellaneous	79,300

COLLECTION OF REVENUE

Customs	685,939
Excise	227,950
Culling timber	78,800
Weights and measures	50,000
Inspection of staples	3,000
Public Works	2,867,845
Post office	1,505,500
Dominion lands	100,000
Minor revenues	10,000

* * *

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

Mr. SCHULTZ enquired why an answer had not been made to the Address of the 26th March, 1873, for copies of the following documents, namely, the draft surrender from the Hudson's Bay Co. to Her Majesty, approved by the Governor General of Canada on the 5th July, 1869; the report of the Upper Committee of the Privy Council on the said draft of the said Order in Council; the Order in Council approving the said draft; all correspondence between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Government of Canada in reference to any claim or application by the said Company of 500 acres of land around Fort Garry; all Orders in Council relative to the said lands; all patents granting the whole or any portion of the said lands to the Hudson's Bay Company. And if any reason existed for those papers not having been laid before the House, what reason?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Directions have been given to have the Address complied with. I am not able to give the reasons why it was not complied with last session.

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PACIFIC RAILWAY

Mr. De COSMOS asked if the Government intended to commence the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Esquimalt this year; and, if so, when?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government cannot possibly state when the construction of the Railway will be commenced as the surveys have not been completed nor have they been able to determine the precise point at which the commencement will be made.

Mr. De COSMOS asked if the Government intended to locate the line of railway in accordance with the Order in Council establishing Esquimalt as the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway. If so, would the twenty-mile belt of land referred to in the Order in Council be surveyed and offered for sale or pre-emption this year, and at what price?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the first part of the question was answered by his answer to the last question. As to the second part, he had simply to say that it would be quite impossible to survey the twenty miles or locate them during the present year.

Mr. De COSMOS enquired whether the Government intended to build a telegraph line along the line of railway on the east coast of Vancouver Island, and particularly between Victoria and Nanaimo, in advance of the construction of the railway.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government did intend to construct a telegraphic line in advance of the actual construction of the road when once they were able to determine its location.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY TERMINUS

Mr. ROULEAU inquired whether it is the intention of Government to locate the terminus of the Intercolonial Railway in the town of Lévis, in the County of Lévis, District of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the terminus proper of the Intercolonial Railway, as the hon. gentleman knew, was at the Rivière du Loup. The question, he presumed, was intended to be whether it was intended to strike a switch into Lévis. He might say that the question had not yet been under the consideration by the Government.

* * *

EXPORT DUTY ON TIMBER

Mr. CHARLTON moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the working of the Act 31 Vic., Cap. 44, so far as it relates to imposing an export duty on saw logs, shingle bolts, and stave bolts; and that the Committee be composed of the following members:— Messrs. Currier, McDougall (Renfrew South), McCallum, Scriver, Colby, Stuart and Charlton.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURALISTS

Mr. ORTON moved that, in view of the necessity of an increase of our tariff, a Select Committee be appointed to enquire as to what will best conduce to the prosperity of the agricultural interests. Mr. Orton spoke at length on the agricultural interests of the country and said that in the House, while other interests were attended to, nothing was done for our farmers. He referred to the question which had been put by a committee at a previous session, but that committee had never reported. It was, he argued, necessary to increase taxes in order to make up the deficiency in our revenue and the amount required to carry on our proposed public works, and in all cases it had been the farmer who had to pay the piper. They were the larger proportion of our people, and should be better considered than heretofore.

He referred to the amount of agricultural products which we exported, and which last year amounted to $10,914,944, from which the United States derived a revenue of $2,181,103, whilst from their exports to Canada the Canadian Government derived no revenue at all. The amount of agricultural products imported last year into Ontario was $9,879,945 from which, at a duty of 10 per cent, might have been derived $987,993. Into Quebec had been imported $1,833,830 worth from which might have been got $181,384. In the other Provinces the imports had been about $2,500,000, which would have given us a revenue of $230,000. The total amount of agricultural products imported in the year was $13,993,805, from which could have been derived a duty of $1,399,377.

Not only would there thus be derived a considerable amount of revenue, but our farmers would be protected, while at present they were placed in an unfavourable position, and they would be relieved from the effect of what was an unequal competition. He then moved that the Committee consist of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Willson, Ross (Prince Edward), Stirton, Cameron (Cardwell), McCallum, Burpee, McQuade, Bowman, Stephenson, Gillies and the mover.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he didn't intend to discuss the subject further than to state that he did not believe it would be possible to afford protection to the farmers by adopting the course proposed. He wished to call the attention to the wording of the motion. The hon. gentlemen said "in view of the necessity of changing the tariff". Now, the hon. gentleman might delude the House by stating that there was a necessity for changing the tariff, and he would suggest that those words must be struck out of his motion before it could pass. He had no objection to the personnel of the Committee; the hon. gentleman made his own choice in that respect.

Mr. STIRTON said an attempt of a similar nature was made every session for the last three years, and each time it proved abortive. He had no reason to think that any better result would flow from this effort, and he requested his name to be withdrawn from the Committee.

Mr. MASSON said an enquiry of this kind could not be satisfactorily made unless all the Provinces were more or less represented upon the Committee. He therefore suggested that the names of Messrs. Richard and Gaudet be added, which was agreed to.

Mr. SMITH (Peel) said he found on examining the motion that there was just one agriculturist's name on the list of the proposed Committee, and he was very sorry that the hon. member for Wellington South (Mr. Stirton), the gentleman referred to, had withdrawn from the affair altogether. He was glad to see that the

lawyers, doctors and merchants had taken hold of this matter, as it was to be presumed from the composition of the Committee that agriculturists were incapable of doing it themselves. However, the Committee, if they did any really good work, would have his (Mr. Smith's) support as an agriculturist.

Mr. YOUNG said the members appointed upon a similar Committee last year had purposely absented themselves from its sittings, and the Chairman had his trouble for nothing. He considered it quite absurd when in Canada we are really exporting yearly thirty million dollars' worth of the produce of our farms, that a motion should be introduced with the object of giving us protection in our home markets.

The effect of carrying out the views of the hon. gentleman who made this motion would be not to benefit the farmer, but to injure greatly the carrying trade of the country. (*Hear, hear.*) It would not add a single cent to the price of agricultural produce, which was altogether dependent upon the state of the foreign markets; it would not put a cent extra into the pockets of the farmers; and the moment the agriculturists of this country accepted the position taken by the mover of the resolution they would be committed to a policy of absolute protection, by which they would lose ten dollars for every one they would gain. The motion was not in the interest of the farmers, and in fact he thought the leader of the Government should have at once objected to it. For his own part, he did not see what good was to be done by the Committee, and he was personally opposed to its being granted.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) supported the motion, and thought a Committee should be appointed which would do its work well and give some information to the House which would enable them to say whether protection should be granted to the farmer.

Mr. DAVIES agreed very much with the view entertained by the member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young) and while he thought some good might result by protecting, to some extent, goods which are manufactured in the country—but not to a sufficient extent to prevent importation—he could not see that anyone would profit but many would lose by agricultural protection.

Mr. STEPHENSON said the farmers in his constituency were all in favour of protection, and he thought the principle was one which if adopted would do more to improve the position and condition of agriculturists in Canada than anything he could imagine.

Mr. ORTON replied at some length to the arguments of the gentleman who differed from him upon the question of agricultural protection, and he thought the statement of the value of our exportation, as given by the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young), was somewhat exaggerated. He thought it did not exceed ten million yearly. He did not believe that the fact of the foreign markets controlling the prices of grain and produce in our markets was any reason for refusing protection against American competition, which he thought to be very unfair as matters stood at present. If it paid the United States to collect a revenue from our exports, it would surely be to our interest to do the same by them. Further, so long as we allowed the United States to send in their articles free, we must give up all hopes of Reciprocity.

Mr. GILLIES was opposed to the principle which the hon. member endeavoured to introduce by the motion he had laid before the House, and pointed out the anomaly of having so few agriculturists and so many professional men upon the Committee. He requested that his own name should be withdrawn.

Mr. GORDON pointed out the absurdity of the motion, and assured the mover that the farmers were not to be so easily humbugged by the cry of protection as certain people believed. He thought nothing should be done to embarrass the proceedings of the Commission on reciprocity now sitting at Washington, and he declared that we had already given away the only thing by which we could have compelled the Americans to give us free trade, namely, our fisheries. He did not wish to be looked upon as opposing the motion, and only referred to these matters in order to reply to some of the statements made by those taking part in the discussion.

He hoped when the motion passed that the Committee would not be a useless one, and that the information they might be able to gather would be laid before the House soon, and in such a form as to make the subject better understood than at present.

Mr. BROUSE held that the first thing they should do was to endeavour to get the Americans to take the duties off the agricultural produce we sent across the lines. To prove this he quoted figures showing the large amount of such produce sent to Ogdensburg from Prescott, and stated that there was none of the same kind brought from the other side into Canada by way of Prescott. He expressed himself in favour of encouraging our manufactures by moderate protection.

Mr. CASEY did not object to the appointment of the Committee because it would hamper the action of the Commissioners at Washington. He did not think it would do so at all; but it seemed that this Committee was a sort of benevolent club, composed of the gentry and professional men of the country, for the purpose of protesting and assisting the poor ignorant farmers and peasantry. (*Cheers and laughter.*) He had been accustomed to pride himself upon being a farmer, in consequence of having been so much accustomed to hear farmers spoken of as the honest yeomanry, the backbone of the country, and so on.

He was, therefore, somewhat surprised when the hon. member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton) moved for a Committee upon which there was only the name of one agriculturist (Mr. Stirton). Now that even that one exception had desired to withdraw his name, it would be clear to the country that the Committee was not moved for at the instigation of farmers, but was a gratuitous interference with the business of farmers, on the part of a portion of the community which knew nothing about the matter. (*Oh, oh!*) He would withdraw the expression, as he heard some indications of dissent, and would presume to say that the motion probably had its origin in some electioneering promise on the part of the mover. In his own experience he had not found it necessary to talk to the

farmers about protection, because he knew the farmers to be sufficiently intelligent to fully understand what that meant. He did not think this benevolent committee would do any harm, and he had no objection to their sitting and, if they pleased, afterwards reporting their benevolent intentions to the House. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

Mr. CHISHOLM said that if the farmers saw fit to select them as their representatives although they were professional men, it was not their duty to represent in this House the profession to which they belong but the agriculturists who are their constituents. He believed that the hon. member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton) and every other member on the proposed Committee had a heartfelt interest in the welfare of the farmers of the country.

Mr. BIGGAR hoped the Committee would be appointed.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) supported the motion, and observed that Mr. Walbridge had stated that he had the authority of the Minister of Finance to tell the farmers of East Hastings that the Government was seriously considering the matter of introducing a Bill to put a duty on American grain coming into the country.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT denied that he had made any such statement.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) said that Mr. Walbridge stated that the Finance Minister did tell him that, when he was taking tea with the latter. (*Laughter and cries of "Private conversation".*)

Mr. BLAIN said the farmers complained that the coarse grains of the Western States were allowed to compete with the grain of our own farmers, and therefore he supported the appointment of this Committee.

Mr. KERR thought the farmers had no particular grievance to be redressed, but he assumed that if the Committee were appointed, and their report was placed before the House, a large amount of information would be the result. When such information was before the House he thought it would be time enough to discuss the question of free trade and protection, which he considered unnecessary and unwise under the present circumstances.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) supported the motion, and hoped that a Committee, which he intended moving in a short time, for the purpose of considering the propriety of granting a bounty to fishermen, would also be agreed to. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. WALKER thought the moving for this Committee might, as his friend from Elgin West (Mr. Casey) had said, be merely clap-trap. However, he had no objection to its being appointed. It would please those who wished for it, and would not do anybody any injury, but he did not think it would have any good result.

Mr. McCALLUM, in supporting the motion, thought it was but justice that the farmers should have as good a price as possible for those short crops which so often occurred. The present motion, he thought, tended to provide for that, and therefore he would support it.

The resolution was carried.

The committee on protection to agriculture, proposed by Mr. Orton, consisted, at the end of the discussion, of the following members: Willson, Ross (Prince Edward), Cameron (Cardwell), McCallum, Colby, McQuade, White (Hastings East), Bowman, Stephenson, Chisholm, Richard, Gaudet and Orton.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER submitted a message from the Senate, giving the names of members of that House appointed to the Joint Committee on Printing, and also the names of the gentlemen appointed to assist the Speaker in the management of the Library.

* * *

EXPORTATION OF TIMBER

Mr. TREMBLAY moved for a return of the timber exported from April, 1873, to the present date from the Counties of Chicoutimi and Saguenay, and supported the motion in French. He said that while he was in the Local House of Quebec he wrote to Mr. Dunscomb, the Collector of Customs at the City of Quebec, asking him for a statement of the amount of timber exported since 1850, and received a reply to the effect that all the documents between 1854 and 1864 had been destroyed by fire in the Custom House at Escoumains in 1864.

He (Mr. Tremblay) then asked why he had not received a return of the timber reported since 1864, and the collector said that the documents could not be got at. He (Mr. Tremblay) believed that the reason for this was a great fraud which had been perpetrated in the Crown Lands Department and winked at by the officials of the old Dominion Government here.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the address might pass, but the Government would not be able to bring down all the returns asked for. They would do the best they could, however.

The motion was carried.

* * *

IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG moved for a return showing the total value of each class of manufactured articles imported from the United States into Canada during each month since the lst September last, with similar returns for the corresponding months of 1870, 1871, and 1872.—Carried.

* * *

POST OFFICE REPORTS

Mr. DOMVILLE moved for a report of the Post Office Inspector of New Brunswick for the months of November, December, and January last.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said there were many reports made that could not be furnished to the House and thereby

be made public; but such portions as he would be justified in making public he would be happy to submit to the hon. gentleman. Certain of the reports were of a confidential nature and could not possibly be made public. If the hon. gentleman would call at his office, he would give him all the information in his power.

Mr. DOMVILLE said he would withdraw his motion for the present. If he had every facility afforded him to obtain the information he desired, he, of course, should be satisfied.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that it was but right that the Inspectors' reports should be privileged; otherwise Inspectors would not make such reports as it was their duty to furnish. Their reports should be confidential.

* * *

QUEBEC COURT OF APPEAL

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE moved for all correspondence in relation to the reorganization of the Court of Appeal in the Province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. DORION said there could be no objection to the motion if the hon. gentleman would state between what dates he wanted the correspondence.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE replied, from the lst January, 1871.

* * *

PICKLED FISH AND FISH OILS

Mr. JONES (Halifax) moved that the House go into Committee tomorrow to consider certain resolutions which he would submit to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 44, so far as it relates to pickled fish and fish oils, in order principally to assimilate the classification of fish.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the Government contemplated certain amendments to this Act. He would like the hon. gentleman to explain what were the points he desired to touch.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said his object was to carry out the recommendations of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. He did not contemplate a material alteration of the Act.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that Mr. Jones' resolutions had reference to the classification of fish, and to assimilate the brands to those of the markets in which they were sold. He did not think that there could be any objection to them. He would suggest that the hon. gentleman should submit his propositions to the Minister of the Inland Revenue, who would, he thought, incorporate them with the measure he proposed.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said Mr. Jones' resolutions were too vague, and should be allowed to stand.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) assented.

* * *

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Mr. DYMOND moved for a return of all commitments for capital offenses in the Dominion since the lst July, 1867, with the convictions and acquittals resulting there from, and the punishments imposed, or pardons, or commutations of sentence. He said he made this motion, to which he apprehended no opposition would be offered, with the view of asking at some future period the opinion of this House on the question of the punishment of death.

The subject was one which had not, he believed, been recently debated in this country. It had, however, engaged a great deal of attention in England, and in most of the continental countries, as well as the United States. There were some States in which capital punishment had been altogether abolished. In Canada the law, although it related to several offenses which were in reality capital, was generally so administered that only murder, and that, too, of an aggravated character, was ever punished with death.

It might be that the House would not at first be prepared to go with him in supporting the motion for the total abolition of capital punishment. Failing that, he would be glad to see the letter of the law brought into harmony with its administration both in England and, to a limited extent, in this country. He had been an observer of the manner in which the law had been carried out by the gentleman who had of late years filled the position of Minister of Justice, and he had no doubt that both the present and the late incumbent of that office in Canada had endeavoured to administer as mercifully as was consistent with their sense of justice and their duty under the law. He did not know what the opinions of the present Minister of Justice might be on the matter but whatever they were he (Mr. Dymond) thought he could not do him a greater service than in asking the House to relieve him of what must be the most distressing portion of his many responsibilities.

This motion was rendered necessary in consequence of there being no judicial statistics for the whole Dominion. It was certainly right that when Parliament had to legislate upon matters connected with the criminal law they should be in possession of all the evidence necessary to ascertain the effect and operation of that law. Quebec was, he believed, the only Province possessing judicial statistics, and he urged upon the consideration of the Government the importance of an annual compilation of such tables for the whole country. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. DORION said that he would endeavour to obtain the information the member for York North (Mr. Dymond) wanted, with reference to those parties who had been condemned and had suffered death, and also with reference to those who had been convicted and had had their sentence commuted, but he did not think it would be possible to get information with reference to trials which had resulted in the acquittal of the accused, unless by applying to the Local Governments. If, however, he could get it in that way he would be happy to do so.

He (Hon. Mr. Dorion) knew that the hon. gentleman had been for years a warm advocate of the abolition of capital punishment, and had written a book on the subject. That book he (Hon. Mr. Dorion) had had occasion to peruse at times when he had a very difficult

case to consider and had found it a work of very great value, particularly when the condemned person was alleged to be insane. He would be very happy to meet the hon. gentleman's wishes as far as lay in his power.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that it would be impossible to get as full a return as was wanted during the present session, for application for the information must be made to the Provincial Governments, and very few of them had within themselves the means of getting it all. He would suggest to the hon. member for York North (Mr. Dymond) that it would be better for him to divide his motion into two, one for a return of convictions, which he could obtain at once, and the other for the remaining information which he desired, but which could not be collected for some time.

Mr. DYMOND said he was obliged to the right hon. gentleman for the suggestion. He had, however, stated, in moving the resolution that he did not intend to take any action during the present session on the information he asked for. The acquittals would, perhaps, be the most important part of the return, because he believed that if they desired to obtain the acquittal of a person charged with murder they could not do better than let it be known to the jury that a verdict of guilty would be equal to the sentence of death.

The motion then passed.

* * *

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down the statements of expenditure at the Trinity House, Quebec, and at the Trinity House, Montreal; also, statements of expenditure on account of harbour police at Montreal and Quebec, and on account of harbour improvements; also a statement of the cost of the maintenance of lighthouses.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that His Excellency's Speech, with the Estimates alluded to therein, be referred to the Committee of Supply.—Carried.

* * *

THE RIEL CASE

On the first order of the day being called, for the attendance at the bar of the Hon. H.J. Clarke, Attorney General of Manitoba,

The Sergeant-at-Arms, after having searched the lobbies, returned and said, "Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Dr. H.J. Clarke is not in attendance."

Mr. SCHULTZ requested that the order be allowed to stand over for some time, as he was informed that Mr. Clarke was in the city, and would be in attendance.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought that this would hardly be regular. Attorney General Clarke was in the city, and he thought it would be very objectionable that the next order should be proceeded with before Mr. Clarke was examined.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE suggested that someone be sent to notify Mr. Clarke that his presence was required.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought a recess of ten minutes or so should be taken, as it would be rather inconvenient for Mr. Speaker to remain in the chair while the House waited for Mr. Clarke's appearance.

In the meantime a messenger had gone in search of Mr. Clarke, as suggested by the Premier, and just as Mr. Holton finished his remarks the Sergeant-at-Arms left the Chamber and returning immediately informed Mr. Speaker that Mr. Clarke was in attendance.

The SPEAKER: Let Mr. Clarke be admitted.

Mr. CLARKE was accordingly admitted, and requested to take a seat.

The witness was then examined by **Mr. OUIMET** as follows:—

Q.: How long have you been in Manitoba?

A.: I have been in Manitoba since the month of November, 1870.

Q.: Where was Mr. Riel when you arrived in Manitoba?

A.: I cannot say positively from personal knowledge, but I understood that he had fled from Manitoba to the United States.

Q.: Did you ever see Mr. Riel, and if you did, when and where did you see him for the first time?

A.: I saw Riel several times. My impression is that the first time I saw him was at the Palace of Archbishop Taché.

Q.: When?

A.: After he returned to Manitoba under the pretext that he came home to die. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. OUIMET asked the witness to state the date.

Witness: I cannot possibly state the day. I have no recollection of it.

Mr. OUIMET said surely the witness could state the year.

The SPEAKER suggested that the hon. gentleman should put the question in writing.

Mr. OUIMET then put the following question: When did you see Mr. Riel at the palace of Archbishop Taché?

Witness: I believe it was about the end of August of the year 1871.

Q.: Did you see Mr. Riel many times since you saw him at the palace of Archbishop Taché?

A.: I saw him very frequently between that time and the time of the issuing of the warrant for his arrest, when he disappeared.

Q.: Did not Mr. Louis Riel at the time appear in public without hindrance?

A.: Mr. Riel appeared on the east side of the Red River, that is the French side of the Red River. I am not aware that he came to the west or English side of the river.

Mr. SCHULTZ: Did Louis Riel ever visit the scene of his exploits of 1869 during the time referred to?

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that it would be inconvenient to allow the series of questions prepared by the member for Laval (Mr. Ouimet) to be interrupted.

Mr. SCHULTZ said this question arose out of the previous one, and he had not made it out of any disrespect to the hon. member for Laval (Mr. Ouimet).

The SPEAKER said the hon. member had an abstract right to put a question at any time, but it was manifestly an inconvenient mode of proceeding.

Mr. SCHULTZ pressed the question if it was in order.

The question was then put.

A.: I was not in the country in 1869. I do not know what exploits are referred to, and cannot therefore give any answer to this question.

Mr. OUIMET: What part of Manitoba is the French side of Red River, and how far is it from Winnipeg, the capital of the Province?

A.: What is generally known as the French portion of Manitoba consisted of the east side of Red River, from St. Boniface East to Pembina, and also up the west side of the Assiniboine. The distance from Winnipeg to St. Boniface East is about, I believe, 600 yards perhaps 800.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Did you ever visit Riel in his own house; who accompanied you; and what was the purpose of your visit?

A.: I did visit Riel in his own house. I was accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Bannatyne, and the object was to try and dissuade him from offering himself as a candidate, which might produce civil commotion in the community.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Did you and Riel have a talk about the Provencher election in his own house; was there any arrangement come to between you and Riel touching the election in Provencher; what was the cause of the quarrel which occurred on the hustings on the nomination day; and did you offer to fight Riel on that occasion at twelve paces (*Laughter*); why did you do that; where was your warrant then? (*Renewed laughter.*)

Mr. BOWELL objected to this question on the ground that it was not pertinent to the case before the House. The purpose for which the witness was brought to the bar was to answer questions relative to the indictment laid before the Grand Jury in the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba, and the true bill returned by the said Grand Jury against Louis Riel, member for the electoral district of Provencher, for the murder of Thomas Scott. The question was not relevant to this matter.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) held that the question was quite in order, and contended that questions of a somewhat similar nature were put by the hon. gentleman himself.

Mr. SCHULTZ was opposed to widening the range of questions, and on that ground he was opposed to these questions.

Mr. OUIMET insisted on the questions being put, saying that the Attorney General had dealings with Mr. Riel and had entered into an arrangement with Riel regarding the Provencher election, and the warrant had only been issued to prevent Riel's candidature for Provencher. He thought he would be able to prove that the whole case had been trumped up by Mr. Clarke, and was a link in a chain of conspiracy against Mr. Louis Riel and the French half-breeds.

Mr. BOWELL rose to order.

Mr. OUIMET said he had no reference to Mr. Bowell or the members of this House, but had referred to the Attorney General of Manitoba and his friends.

The SPEAKER said the enquiry of the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) was not confined to the notice put on the notice paper. Certain questions had been ruled out of order because they impliedly declared that the member for Provencher (Mr. Riel) was guilty in some way of a certain crime. The hon. member for Hastings North himself stated it was his intention, by the investigation, to prove that the hon. member for Provencher was a fugitive from justice, and therefore should be expelled from the House. That being the case, he took it that any question tending to show that the hon. gentleman was not a fugitive from justice was in order, and he thought that any question tending to test the credibility of the witness at the bar might be properly put. Therefore he held the present question was strictly in order.

Mr. BOWELL said he knew it was a delicate matter to differ from Mr. Speaker's ruling; but he did not hesitate to say that the questions put to witness were not pertinent to the motion on the notice paper. He held that the House had nothing to do with Riel or his whereabouts prior to the issue of the warrant.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said it was not permitted to discuss the ruling of the Speaker. It might be appealed from *sub silentio*. Therefore the hon. gentleman was not in order in arguing against the Speaker's decision. He thought there could be no doubt as to the fitness and relevancy of the questions. It was for the House to decide the point of order arising out of the Speaker's ruling.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said the hon. member was speaking to the question, whether the question should be put or not, and he (Mr. Kirkpatrick) considered he had a perfect right to do so.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the point raised by the hon. gentleman was not whether the enquiry should be put, but whether the ruling of the Speaker was right.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK contended that in view of former rulings on these questions the hon. member had a perfect right to say what he had said. (*Cries of "Order".*)

Mr. BOWELL said the principle laid down by the hon. member to justify his question was that they had a right to show that Riel had not been a fugitive from justice for a number of years. He could not have been so until the warrant was issued for his arrest, which was not until November last. He therefore held that the House had nothing to do with Mr. Riel's whereabouts previous to that time. Seeing that the hon. gentleman was to be allowed to put the question, he (Mr. Bowell) would take the opportunity also to put such questions to the witness as he thought necessary to show not only that Riel was a fugitive from justice, but that he had actually been conspiring against the peace of the State since that time.

The SPEAKER: Does the hon. gentleman intend to divide the House upon my ruling?

Mr. BOWELL: No.

Mr. CLARKE then gave his answers to the questions. He said: I did see Riel at his own house about the Provencher election. There was an arrangement come to between Riel and myself, which he broke. No quarrel occurred on the hustings on nomination day, and I did not offer to fight him on that account, but when I did offer to fight him it was because he was impertinent.

There was no warrant then issued; there was no warrant issued until last November. Had there been a warrant issued he would have been arrested then. I beg leave to correct myself—the first warrant issued was in September 1873. The Bench warrant was issued in November.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Why was there no warrant then; why was the issue of the warrant delayed until last September?

A.: So far as I am cognizant of the facts, the reason why no warrant was issued was because no person laid a proper information or made a deposition asking for the issue of the warrant by a competent magistrate. The one issued last September was issued by a magistrate upon the proper deposition being made. It was issued without my knowledge and I had no knowledge of it until, I believe, two days after.

Q.: Did you ever receive a telegram from a Minister in Ottawa touching the Provencher election; was it not after the receipt of said telegram you quarrelled with Riel, and issued the warrant; who was the Minister who telegraphed to you from Ottawa; do you recollect the purport of the telegram that passed between you and Sir John Macdonald touching this matter?

Mr. BOWELL said he had asked some questions with reference to certain documents, but it was ruled that unless these documents were before the House he could not do so. He contended, therefore, that this question should not be put, and, besides, the enquiry was irrelevant.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said there was no evidence that the telegrams referred to were in existence.

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Were you with the constables who went in search of Riel, and ransacked the parsonage of St. Norbert, the nunnery there, and the Cathedral at St. Boniface, a few weeks ago?

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said there was no evidence than there had been any such transactions.

The SPEAKER: This question is also out of order, because it makes allegations the correctness of which had not been established by any evidence now before the House.

Mr. BABY: On whose complaint was the warrant issued against Riel?

A.: The warrant was issued against Louis Riel, and afterwards against Ambroise Lépine and others, on the information of one Farmer, who's first or Christian name I do not remember.

Q.: Was not the said Farmer an employee of the Government of Manitoba?

A.: No, the Farmer in question is an employee of the Government at Ottawa, and is I believe, one of Mr. McMicken's people in the Land Office.

Q.: Was it not at your request or suggestion that he made the said complaint?

A.: No; I had never spoken to the man in my life, to my knowledge, until after the issue of the warrant. I never suggested his laying any information, nor was I aware that he did so until after the issue of the warrant.

Q.: Are you not aware that Mr. Farmer was one of the jury before whom the true bill was found against Louis Riel?

A.: I cannot say positively "yes", but I believe he was. (*Hear, hear from several individuals.*)

Q.: Did you give instructions yourself to the police officers who were in charge of the first warrant, and what were these instructions?

A.: No, I did not; I do not believe the warrant was placed in the hands of the police. My impression is that the first warrant was placed in the hands of the Sheriff. I gave no instruction in the matter.

Mr. OUIMET: Did you not instruct those police officers to arrest Riel and Lépine, and if they could not arrest Riel that it was useless to arrest Lépine alone?

A.: I stated in my last answer that I gave no instructions at all, and having given no instructions I could not give such instructions

as are insinuated in this question. The fact that Lépine was arrested and Riel was not shows that no such instructions were given.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Do you consider any fugitive from justice should be deprived of legislative powers; what is your definition of a fugitive from justice?

Mr. BOWELL submitted that the question was out of order.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought the question was a proper one.

The question was not put.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Was not the Government at Ottawa informed of the candidature of Riel at the last election, and as Attorney General did you receive a communication from any Minister of the Crown to take advantage of his presence as such candidate to obtain his arrest?

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said the question was irrelevant, and besides it had reference to the contents of communications which were not before the House.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said the question was put for the purpose of ascertaining the animus of the witness.

Mr. McDONNELL said the question did not state that the communication was in writing, and until it was shown that it was in writing the question was in order.

The SPEAKER: The information to which the question refers could not be conveyed except in writing. I therefore rule the question out of order.

Mr. BABY: Was not Riel to your knowledge present at the burial service of Captain or Lieut. Gagné, held in the Catholic Cathedral of Manitoba, at which were also present troops in garrison?

A.: Captain Gagné died some time in March 1872 or 1873. I am not perfectly aware whether Riel was at his funeral or not. I was present at the funeral. I am certain that there was a firing party at the funeral.

Q.: At the time on what side of the river did you reside—on the French or on the English side?

A.: Near Saint-Boniface Cathedral on the French side of the river.

Mr. SCHULTZ: Was there any warrant in existence for Riel's arrest at the time of Capt. Gagné's funeral?

A.: None had been issued to my knowledge up to that time, nor was any issued until the September following.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: Why did you not cause a warrant to be issued then or before?

A.: For two very simple reasons; the first was that I was not a magistrate at that time, and the second was that no man ever came forward to lay an information. If there had been one laid the day after I arrived in the country I would have issued the warrant.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Did you ever propose the health of Riel at a certain public meeting, at which, amongst others, the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) was present, when you spoke of Louis Riel in the most laudatory terms, and pledged yourself along with others to stand by him notwithstanding all that had occurred?

Mr. BOWELL said this had nothing whatever to do with the matter in hand, adding "You might just as well ask whether it was drunk in Bourbon whisky or what else, or ask how much his election cost him."

Hon. Mr. HOLTON ventured to think the question was pertinent to the enquiry. The witness at the bar had held the position of Attorney General of Manitoba since December, 1871. He had proved that an indictment was laid by him before the Grand Jury against Riel for an act alleged to have been committed in March, 1870. The line of the enquiry, as he (Hon. Mr. Holton) took it, was to show that in the interval between the witness's arrival in the country and his appointment as Attorney General in 1871, and the issuance of the indictment, relations of a more or less friendly and social character existed between him and the member for Provencher, against whom the indictment was made. The value and the extent of those relations must, he (Hon. Mr. Holton) thought, have a very direct bearing on the question the House were now considering, to wit, the prosecution of Mr. Riel, the member for Provencher, at a subsequent period.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said that surely the member of Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) could not be in earnest when he held that the personal social relations of the witness at the bar with Riel were pertinent to this enquiry. The House wished simply to get at the facts.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON held that it was important, not only to have the facts in relation to a case, but also to ascertain the animus of the witness, so that they might be in a position to judge of the value of the evidence.

The SPEAKER ruled the question in order, and it was then put.

A.: I believe, on one occasion, at the close of our Legislative session, the member for Marquette (Mr. Cunningham), the member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith), and several other merry gentlemen were enjoying themselves over a bottle of champagne. Several healths were proposed, and I have no doubt that Louis Riel's was proposed and drunk, and I have no doubt that any other health that might have been proposed at the time would have been drunk likewise. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: I go for a prohibitory law, then. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): You acknowledge an agreement between you and Riel. What was the agreement between you and him? You said he had broken the said agreement.

A.: The agreement was that he pledged himself not to state to anybody that I had been to see him. Within two hours he proclaimed it all round the country. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. SCHULTZ: Have you any reason to believe that Louis Riel did encourage the Fenian raid in Manitoba, and did commission

W.B. O'Donoghue and others as officers of the so-called provisional army?

The SPEAKER declared the question to be out of order.

Mr. OUIMET: Did you succeed in your proceedings in outlawry, and if not can you tell the reason why?

A.: The second step to secure the outlawry had been granted by the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba; the third step will be taken on the 10th day of June next.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: Was not the warrant issued against Riel in consequence of a telegram received by you from Ottawa?

A.: I declare that no such telegram was ever received by me; and if it had been, I would have treated it with contempt. (*Cries of "Oh!" and laughter.*) It is a matter of local jurisdiction.

Mr. SCHULTZ: Would it have been possible for you to have obtained the outlawry of Riel before this time?

A.: No, it would not, in consequence of the arrangement of our terms at the Court of Queen's Bench.

Mr. OUIMET: Previous to the issue of the first warrant, did you hurry off and publicly express your opinion that the Courts of Manitoba had no jurisdiction to try Riel?

Mr. BOWELL submitted that the question was not in order. The Attorney General's opinion was nothing to the House.

Mr. OUIMET said it was with reference to a matter of fact that he was enquiring and a matter of fact relative to an answer the witness had already given. The reply to this question might help the House to know exactly the reasons for the position in which the witness was when he applied to have the warrant issued.

The SPEAKER said that the question might possibly bear on the answers of the witness at the bar, and therefore he would not feel himself justified in ruling to a point of order.

The question was then put.

A.: As Attorney General for the Province of Manitoba, I never expressed any such opinion.

Mr. OUIMET said that the answer was not a complete one to the question he put. He asked the witness if he ever expressed that opinion, not whether he did so as Attorney General or in any other capacity.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said this was irrelevant. It made no difference to this House what were the opinions of the witness. It was only on questions of fact that he could be asked any question.

Mr. BOWELL said that the Speaker had, a short time ago, ruled a similar question out of order. He could not see what the witness's opinions had to do with the facts.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the previous question had been ruled to be in order, and no objection had been raised. It was a question similar to this, having been whether he had expressed an opinion. The witness had replied, "Not in his capacity as Attorney General." Now he was asked for his opinion in private capacity.

The SPEAKER said that he did not think that the opinion of the witness would have any effect with the House. As far as he could judge, it was put with the view of testing the credibility of the witness, of testing the value of the evidence that had already given by showing that at one time he expressed an opinion, and a little after expressed one contradictory to it, or something to that effect.

He (the Speaker) assented to the question; therefore, it would be for the House to afterwards say whether they should accept the evidence of the witness just as he gave it at present. It was entirely within the province of any hon. member to put any question which went directly to show the feeling of the witness at the bar with regard to this matter. He did not suppose that the House should or would be influenced in any degree by any opinion the witness at the bar might express at any time.

The question was then repeated.

A.: I never expressed the opinion that the Courts of Manitoba, if properly constituted, had no jurisdiction to try Louis Riel.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON held that the rule which prevailed in Courts of Justice with reference to witnesses being required to give direct answers should also prevail.

Mr. BOWELL rose to a point of order.

The SPEAKER said he did not think the hon. member for Quebec Centre had transgressed any rule of the House yet.

Mr. BOWELL rose to a point of order. He said: I find in May—

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: While the Speaker is up you ought to sit down.

Mr. BOWELL took his seat, and the Speaker resumed his position in the chair.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON having risen,

Mr. BOWELL rose to order. (*Cries of "Order!"*)

The SPEAKER said he would hear the question of order of the hon. member for Hastings North.

Mr. BOWELL said he was not aware there was any question of order before the House. He thought if May were consulted it would be found that in an investigation of this kind, when any discussion arose as to the propriety of the question or as to the manner in which it would be given, the witness should retire.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said there was no necessity for that. He merely wanted the witness to give a direct answer to the questions put to him.

The SPEAKER said he certainly would request the witness at the Bar to answer directly the questions put to him.

Mr. BOWELL read his objection from May.

The SPEAKER said the following of such rules would prolong the proceedings unnecessarily, but he thought it was desirable that the witness should give direct answers to the questions.

Witness: I am asked the question, "Previous to the issue of the first warrant, did you not hurry off and publicly express your opinion that the Courts of Manitoba had no jurisdiction."

A.: I never expressed the opinion that the Courts of Manitoba, properly constituted, had no jurisdiction. That is as direct an answer as I can possibly find in the English language.

Mr. OUIMET: What do you mean by those words, "properly constituted?"

A.: By the words "properly constituted", I mean legally constituted with the laws of Canada extended to the Province of Manitoba, and the Judges of the Courts appointed by the Crown as provided in the Act.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): What were those arrangements of the Court of Queen's Bench that interfere with the process of outlawry being carried out; was the efficacy of the Court in this respect ever tested; if so, in what case?

A.: The difficulty was that our Court of Queen's Bench terms only took place every four months, and more than one step cannot be taken at any one particular term. I do not understand the meaning of the latter portion of the question. If it is explained, I will endeavour to answer it as clearly as I can.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: When did you consider the Court legally established?

A.: I considered it legally established when the Hon. Mr. Morris was appointed Chief Justice, the first Judge appointed under the Act. We in reality had no Court properly established previous to that time.

Mr. BABY: Did you ever say that the Courts of Manitoba, as then constituted, had no jurisdiction in the matter of Riel?

A.: I said that until the Criminal Code of Canada was extended to the Province of Manitoba I did not consider we had jurisdiction.

Mr. OUIMET: You did not succeed in your proceedings for outlawry; was it not that the hon. Judge presiding in the Court refused it on the ground that the Court had no jurisdiction?

A.: No such decision was ever rendered by any Judge in the Province of Manitoba, to my knowledge.

Mr. OUIMET: In a public meeting at Saint-Norbert, in the County of Provencher, in the year 1870, or 1871, or since that time did you not speak favourably of Mr. Riel, and did you not say that Mr. Riel and his friends were right in opposing the annexation of the Northwest to Canada without any guarantee, and did you not say that you heartily sympathized with Mr. Riel and his friends the French half-breeds, or something to the same effect?

Mr. FLESHER contended that the question was not pertinent to the issue.

Mr. OUIMET said this question, like several he had already put, was designed to show the animus of the witness.

The SPEAKER ruled the questioning in order, and it was accordingly put.

A.: In the public meeting at Saint-Norbert, in public meetings in other parishes of Manitoba, in the city of Ottawa, and in the city of Montreal, I expressed the opinion that the people of Red River were perfectly justified in standing out for securing their vested rights as between the Hudson's Bay Company on one hand and the Dominion of Canada on the other. It was my opinion then, it is my opinion now, but I always condemned the spilling of blood. It was a criminal blunder. (*Cries of "Order".*)

Mr. BOWELL: Do you not think that the murder of Thomas Scott was a most brutal and uncalled for act on the part of Louis Riel and his associates? (*"Oh", and laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said this was a question of opinion and was not in order. What was wanted was the opinion of the Attorney General at the time of these occurrences.

Mr. BOWELL said he had held this all along, but had been overruled; for Mr. Speaker had held such questions to be in order. He said the witness had been asked his opinion on several points to show his animus. He now desired to ascertain his animus towards Mr. Riel.

Mr. MASSON said the witness had only been asked what he had said.

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. BOWELL amended the question to meet the objection of the member for Terrebonne:—

Q.: Did you express the opinion that the Courts of Manitoba, after the appointment of Chief Justice Morris, had jurisdiction in relation to offenses committed previous to the organization of the territory?

Mr. FLESHER said the question was not out of order.

A.: I did, as provision to that effect is made in the Act of 1871.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON: Are you aware of any steps being taken by the Government of Canada, or by any member thereof, before the election of 1872, to induce Riel to leave the country?

Mr. FLESHER objected to the question as irrelevant.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said it was a question of fact.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said similar questions had already been ruled out of order.

Mr. MILLS contended that the question was perfectly relevant. If the House could gain any information as to whether an amnesty was promised to Riel or not it was important to obtain it.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said now that questions were being put which might implicate the Government of which he had had the honour to be a member, he hoped no friend of the late Government would object to them on that ground. As far as he knew no member of the late Government had any desire to keep back any information which the House might think is desirable to obtain. As a member of

that Government he knew nothing, and he believed no other member of that Government knew of anything connected with asking Riel to leave the country.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said that if the question of an amnesty were to be investigated by the House, the Committee which had been appointed need not proceed.

The SPEAKER thought the question would very greatly enlarge the scope of the whole enquiry.

He said he would reserve his decision for a few moments.

He handed the question to the Hon. Mr. Holton, with whom the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) held a short conversation.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it was very difficult to say what questions were regular and what were not when there was no charge before the House. He had already stated, on two occasions, that the proceedings of the member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) were not correct. If he intended to prove that Mr. Riel was a fugitive from the country, it would be regular to endeavour to prove that he was invited by the Government to leave the country. The member for Hastings North would find, if he referred to the proceedings in the case of Mr. Sadlier, that there was a distinct charge that he had fled from the country, on such and such a charge; but here there was no charge made, and the result; was that questions were put at random. A hundred questions had been put, but he had still to learn what the hon. gentleman was driving at.

Mr. ROCHESTER thought this question was irrelevant, and that it was time irrelevant questions should be stopped. He commented on the fact of the silence of a number of hon. gentlemen who had boasted up and down the country how glad they would be to get Riel into their hands, even though it drained the coffers of the country. The district issue was, had the indictment been laid, and had a warrant been issued? He went on to speak on the Scott murder question, but was called to order.

Mr. BOWELL defended the course he had taken, and contended that he had established that an indictment had been laid and a warrant issued. The question as to Riel being a fugitive from justice had come up incidentally, and he did not rest his case on that being proved. When all the evidence had been adduced, he would indicate the course which he would take. He hoped, as far as possible, the investigation would be kept closely to the question before the House. He had not acted from being inspired by any animus, but had followed precedents in other cases.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said there was no question that the initiation of this matter was irregular, and they must all deplore it. He contended that this question bore distinctly upon the question of the indictment. The crime was alleged to have been committed in March 1870. The bill of indictment was found in November, 1873, nearly four years after the commission of the crime. It surely must be relevant to show what circumstances, if any, had led to this extraordinary delay in the laying of the indictment by the Attorney General; and he, therefore, urged that this matter was a very important element in the enquiry, and perfectly relevant to the question.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said there was no question before the House as to Riel being a fugitive from justice. If the proceedings were irregular, it was the fault of the Government, who ought to see that irregular proceedings were not allowed to go on. If the late Government had neglected their duty, it was not the business of the present House.

The SPEAKER said that at an early stage of the proceedings objection was taken to some questions put to the witness on the ground that they went outside of the order on the paper.

At the time the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) argued that, having a witness at the Bar, it was competent for the House to extend the enquiry as far as it saw fit. The House acquiesced in that opinion and acted upon it and questions were then put to the witness far beyond the scope of what appeared upon the order paper.

He believed that it was upon the following day that the member for Hastings North explained to the House what his object was in examining this witness, and either he (the Speaker) must have misunderstood him, or the hon. member must have forgotten what he said, as his statement this evening appeared to be in contradiction of the previous statement. If his (the Speaker's) recollection was correct, the hon. gentleman said in reply to objections which were raised that he had not reduced his intentions to writing or put the House in possession of his purpose that he meant to prove that Louis Riel was a fugitive from justice. (*Hear, hear.*) He, at all events, so understood him, and had guided himself in consequence on many of his decisions.

The whole of the proceedings since, he understood, had been directed not only to prove that an indictment had been found and a warrant issued, but, moreover, that the individual named in the warrant was a fugitive from justice. As far as this question was concerned, he thought there was much force in the argument of the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion), and ruled the question in order.

The question was then put.

Witness: I am not personally aware of any such steps having been taken by the government of Canada or by any member of it, to the effect mentioned in this question.

Mr. BABY: Who appointed you a magistrate, and when were you appointed?

A.: The Crown appoints all magistrates. I was appointed by the Crown sometime in the course of last summer.

Mr. BABY: Is it not the Attorney General who advises the Crown to make such appointments?

A.: Sometimes the Attorney General advises the appointment of magistrates, but any member of the Ministry may advise the appointment of magistrates.

Mr. BABY: Who advised your appointment?

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought this was an improper question, as it was one which the witness was not bound to answer.

The question was not put.

Mr. BABY: Is Henry Joseph your only Christian name; have you not at different times called yourself Henry Joseph O'Connor Clarke, and Henry Joseph Hines Clarke?

Mr. KIRKPATRICK objected to the question as irrelevant.

Mr. BOWELL: Does it show the animus? (*Laughter.*)

Mr. BABY said it showed the witness had gone under different names at different times.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said the question tended to show that the person at the bar was not the witness. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. OUIMET said he was informed that the witness had been sworn in as Attorney General of Manitoba under the name of Henry J. Hines Clarke. If he was only Henry Joseph Clarke, he might not be the Attorney General of Manitoba. (*Laughter.*)

The motion that the question be put was lost on a division.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Did you ever show to A.G.B. Bannatyne and Robert Cunningham a telegram from Ottawa signed "John Macdonald" with the words "No" or "By no means"; and did you state that it was in reply to a telegram you had sent asking if Louis Riel should run for Provencher, and did not the quarrel between you and Louis Riel follow this?

Mr. BOWELL said the question was out of order, as it referred to the contents of a document which could not be produced.

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. BOWELL: Have you seen Riel or had any correspondence with him since the issue of the warrant against him in September last, and the Bench warrant of November, 1873?

A.: No, I have not seen him since the issuing of the first warrant up to the present time, nor have I had any correspondence with him, directly or indirectly.

Mr. BOWELL: Have you within the last twenty-four hours received any letters of a threatening character in connection with this investigation? If so, produce them.

A.: I have received several such letters since the commencement of this investigation, but I regret exceedingly that this matter has been brought up, for I trust those things with supreme contempt. I received one this afternoon, on my arrival at my hotel. It came by mail and I will produce it if I am required to do so, although I do not consider it worth producing. The men who write such things are cowards, and I do not fear them.

The Assistant Clerk then read the letter, which was handed in, as follows: "Attorney General Clarke, Ottawa—Take my advice and take no more proceedings in the Riel affair, for if anything is done to him by your influence or otherwise you will have to endure or suffer the same fate. There is a certain organized party somewhere strictly banded together and decided to revenge, and is waiting for the opportunity. Some of its members are now watching your actions in Ottawa, and those of a few others. If you persist, prepare yourself to die. (Signed "REVENGE".) (*Laughter.*)

The envelope bore the postmarks of Montreal and Ottawa.

The witness was then allowed to withdraw, it being understood he was to hold himself at the command of the House.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it was not usual to discharge witnesses until the final proceedings were taken. They should be allowed to withdraw, and be in readiness to be in attendance again if required.

* * *

RIEL NON EST INVENTUS

Mr. SCHULTZ moved that the second order for the attendance of Louis Riel, Esq., the member for the electoral district of Provencher in his palace, be now read.

The SPEAKER: Is the hon. member in the place?

No answer was made, as the hon. member was not in his place.

Mr. OUIMET inquired if any notification had been given to the hon. member to attend in his place. (*Laughter.*) He understood that no such notification had been given, as it should have been, and without it, it was impossible to say that the member refused to attend.

The SPEAKER: I am not aware that there was any notice given further than that which appears upon the paper.

The third order was then called for the attendance of Detective Philip Hamilton, of the Ottawa Police force.

The Sergeant-at-Arms (after visiting the lobbies): Detective Hamilton is now in attendance.

Mr. BOWELL: What is your name, and where do you reside?

A.: My name is Philip S. Hamilton; I reside in Ottawa.

Q.: Are you a detective in the Ottawa Police force?

A.: I am a detective of the police force of the city of Ottawa.

Q.: Have you had a warrant placed in your hands for the arrest of Louis Riel, and, if so, produce it?

A.: I have such a warrant in my possession, and I now produce it.

The warrant was then produced and read—that is, the warrant issued in the city of Ottawa, dated 19th March, 1874.

Q.: Have you taken any steps to arrest Louis Riel? If so, state what steps you have taken to that end.

A.: I have made all enquiries and done all in my power to make the arrest.

Q.: Have you succeeded in arresting the said Louis Riel?

A.: No, I have not.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Do you know anything about the indictment against Riel before the Grand Jury at Winnipeg?

A.: I do not.

Mr. BABY: What steps did you take for the arrest of Louis Riel?

A.: I made enquiries and watched for him at places in the city where I thought he would be likely to go.

The witness was then permitted to withdraw.

Mr. BOWELL explained that when he said the other night that Detective McVeity was not the person who had the warrant, he did not desire him to be discharged. He said the order for his appearance was not on the paper. Mr. McVeity was in attendance, and he moved that he be called.

On motion, the previous witness was recalled for the purpose of answering one question:

Mr. BABY: Do you know Louis Riel?

A.: I have never seen him, but I believe I would know him if I saw him, from his picture.

Mr. McVeity was then called and appeared, and was allowed to take a seat at the bar.

Q.: What is your name, and are you a detective of the police force of Ottawa?

A.: My name is William McVeity, but I am not a detective of the police force of Ottawa.

Q.: Have you any knowledge of a warrant issued for the arrest of Louis Riel, and if so, state what you know of it?

A.: I know that there is a warrant in the hands of detective Hamilton for the arrest of Louis Riel.

Q.: Did you assist Mr. Hamilton? If so, state what was done.

A.: I did assist in making enquiries along with Mr. Hamilton and in trying to arrest Louis Riel.

Mr. BABY: Do you know Louis Riel?

A.: I do not know Louis Riel.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette): Did it never strike you or Hamilton to watch the rooms of Mr. Patrick, Clerk of the House, in looking after Louis Riel?

The question was not put.

Mr. BOWELL: Have you seen a photograph of Louis Riel, and would you know him from his picture?

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) objected to the question on the ground that a document was referred to which was not proved to exist. (*Laughter.*)

Witness: I have seen a photograph with Detective Hamilton, which he said was the photograph of Louis Riel. I think I would know the party from whom the photograph was taken.

The witness was then allowed to withdraw.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. BOWELL said before the House adjourned he desired to know whether, in view of the facts elicited from the witnesses at the bar, in reference to the member for Provencher, it was the intention of the Government to take any action with regard to the seat which that man held. He did not know that he was strictly in order in asking a question of this kind without giving notice, but he presumed the Government were the true custodian of the honour and dignity of the House. The facts elicited were sufficient to warrant him in saying that it became their duty to take some action in the matter. He did not know whether the government were prepared to answer this question, but he would like to know if they intended to take any steps to rid the House of an unworthy member.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said whatever course the Government might have been disposed to take in this matter, they were not now going to take it out of the hon. gentleman's hands, and the hon. gentleman ought to have put this question before taking these proceedings. He would remind the hon. gentleman that he (Mr. Bowell) had intimated to the House at the outset that he was prepared to follow up his recent proceedings by a motion based upon them, which he would submit to this House. When the hon. gentleman had discharged all that he conceived to be his duty, when he ended these proceedings, the government would say what course they would think proper to take in the premises.

Mr. BOWELL said that upon consulting precedents he found that when an independent member had taken any steps with regard to the seat of a member, and when the acts had been proven, the Government took the matter in hand. The course which he had pursued in this case was exactly the same as that taken by Mr. Roebuck in the Sadlier case. As soon as the facts had been ascertained the Solicitor General for Ireland moved for Mr. Sadlier's expulsion.

In the case of O'Donovan Rossa a similar course was pursued. This was the reason why he put the question to the Government but he did not intend to take any action at this stage of the proceedings.

He begged leave to give notice that he would move on Monday next, seconded by Mr. Schultz, that Louis Riel, a member of this House for the electoral district of Provencher in the Province of Manitoba, having been charged with murder, and an indictment having been issued against him, the said Louis Riel, having fled from justice and having failed to obey the order of the House that he should attend in his place in this House on Thursday, the 9th day of April, 1874, be expelled from this House. He might merely say he had followed almost verbatim the wording of the motion of the Solicitor General Neil in moving the expulsion from the House of Commons of Sadlier.

Hon. Mr. DORION reminded the hon. member that a motion almost similar to that of which he gave notice had been moved by Mr. Roebuck, but rejected, and at the following session, the motion was made by the Solicitor General for Ireland and carried.

Mr. MILLS quoted from *Hansard* showing that Mr. Roebuck's motion was rejected on the 24th of July, 1856, because the House considered it premature, and the government took the objection that there was not sufficient evidence before the House to prove that Mr. Sadlier was a fugitive from justice. In 1857, further light having been thrown upon the subject, the motion for his expulsion was made and carried, as already stated.

The House adjourned at midnight.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. RYAN—On Monday next—Address for correspondence between the Government and the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, with a copy of the dismissal of Messrs. Delisle, Workman, Hudon, and Ryan from the said Commission; also, copies of any letters and telegrams on the same subject between the Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie and Dorion and the Hon. John Young, one of the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal.

Mr. PLUMB—On Monday next—Address for a list of the contractors for work now in progress or hereafter to be commenced in the several sections of the Welland Canal, with the names of the sureties, also for a list of all the tenders made for the same, specifying the names of the persons so tendering, the sections for which they severally tendered, and the amount of each tender.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette)—On Monday—Whether it is the intention of the government to commence the building of the railway between St. Vincent and Winnipeg during the present year.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette)—On Monday—Whether any communication had been made with the Washington Government with a view to facilitating the bonding of the property of emigrants passing through the United States to Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE—On Monday—For a Select Committee to enquire as to the best and most direct route for conveyance of mails and passengers between the Dominion of Canada and Europe; the possibility of navigating the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the winter months, and of finding on the shores of the Dominion a harbour accessible both in winter and summer, to be the terminus of such shortest route, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—Address for a comparative statement of revenues collected in the first nine months of the fiscal years 1872-1873 and 1873-1874.

Mr. RYAN: Whether any contract has recently been made respecting the ocean mail service with any company or persons, and if so, with whom.

Mr. GILLIES—On Monday—That a Select Committee be appointed to investigate the condition of the Indians in the Saugeen Peninsula in relation to the tenure of lands held for them in that locality.

Mr. FORBES: If the Government Railway in New Brunswick passes the members of Parliament over it without charge, why is the same courtesy not extended to members from the other Provinces?

Mr. BOWELL—On Monday next—That Louis Riel, a member of this House for the electoral district of Provencher in the Province of Manitoba having been charged with murder, and a Bill of Indictment for said offense having been found against him and warrant issued for his apprehension, and the said Louis Riel having fled from justice and having failed to obey an order of the House that he should attend in his place on Thursday the 9th day of April 1874, be expelled from this House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, April 10, 1874

Prayers

The SPEAKER announced that he had received the following letter from Judge Johnson:

THE CONSTITUTION OF ELECTION COURTS

Montreal, April 8, 1874

To the Hon. Speaker of the House:

Sir, I have the honour of enclosing a copy of the writ purporting to be a writ of prohibition, with petition annexed, which has been served upon Justices Torrance, Beaudry and myself, under the Controverted Elections Act of 1873 as Election Judges, in order that the Honourable House of Commons may be informed thereof.

I have the honour to be, etc.

J. Johnson

* * *

NOTICES MISLAID

The SPEAKER further announced that the Clerk informed him that several of the notices of motion sent in to him last evening had been mislaid in some way; some of these notices came in at a very late hour. The Clerk would be obliged if gentlemen who found their notices did not appear on the paper would renew them. He reminded hon. members that notices should be served not later than five p.m. The rule had been violated very frequently, and some of the notices had not been given in before twelve o'clock at night.

* * *

NEW MEMBER

Mr. BURK, the newly elected member for Durham West, was introduced by Hon. Messrs. Blake and Fournier and took his seat.

* * *

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A very large number of petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law, including those by Mr. Scatcherd (Middlesex North) with 363 signatures from Middlesex; by Mr. Bodwell with 620 signatures, from Oxford South; by Mr. McGregor, from Essex, with 750 signatures; by Mr. Chisholm (Halton), from Oakville; and also from the Municipal Council of Georgetown, in the County of Halton; by Mr. Wilkes, with 764 signatures from Toronto Centre; by Mr. Harvey (Elgin East) with 900 signatures, from the County of Elgin; by Hon. Mr. Paterson (Brant South), from 1,236 inhabitants of Brantford; by Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, from 771 inhabitants of Lambton; and by Mr. Walker (London) a petition 66 feet in length and signed by 4,705 citizens of London. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) presented several petitions from the inhabitants of the Township of Tuckersmith praying that the said township be annexed to the South riding of the County of Huron, for Parliamentary purposes. (*Hear, hear.*)

A petition was presented from Official Assignees, praying that their interest be protected in the new Insolvent law; for the incorporation of Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company; one praying for the incorporation of the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway Company; and one for a bridge over the River L'Assomption.

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PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the first report of the Joint Committee on Printing recommending a reduction of the quorum.

* * *

THE LAW OF USURY

Mr. PALMER moved for leave to introduce a bill respecting the law relating to usury. He explained that in the different Provinces of the Dominion the law upon this subject was entirely different. In New Brunswick the law was that no person could receive a larger amount of interest than six per cent. He thought greater freedom should exist in monetary transactions, for it was well known that the freer the dealings in money the cheaper it became.

The motion was carried, and the bill was read a first time.

* * *

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved after the present week, and during the remainder of the session, Government measures shall have precedence on Thursday over other orders. He made this motion in accordance with the notice he gave a few days ago. On Government days they would go to the end of the paper, and, whenever hon. members desired, the remainder of the day might be occupied with public business. In this way each day might be fully occupied, and the whole business which was ready would be got through.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. The object of this bill was to take the entire control of the finishing of this road into the hands of the Government. *(Hear, hear.)* At present the line was practically under the control of four Railway Commissioners and the Act provided that it should be constructed under their control. It was now considered advisable in the interest of economy and otherwise that the Government should assume the control of what is to be done on the road.

One of the Commissioners, the late Chairman of the Board, Mr. Walsh, received his discharge three months ago, and he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had not thought it advisable to appoint any gentleman to succeed him. In order to fill the office, the Deputy Minister of Public Works had been appointed Commissioner *pro tem*. This bill was to vest all the powers for the construction of this work put into the hands of Commissioners and in the hands of the Minister of Public Works, and to make such transactions legal as may be thought not to be effected by present legislation.

The motion was carried, and the bill was read a first time.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) moved that this House do on Wednesday next go into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—

That it is expedient to continue the second and third sections of the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 40, respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island until lst January, 1875, and thence to the end of the next session of Parliament.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Will the hon. gentleman state what is the object of this motion?

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) said it was to provide for the same necessity as existed last year for an Act regarding the importation of liquor from Prince Edward Island to the rest of the Dominion. A large quantity of liquor was last year in bond, having been imported at a much lower rate of duty than provided throughout the rest of the Dominion; and the purpose of the Act then was, as it was now, to prevent its exportation to the other Provinces.

The motion was carried.

* * *

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Hon. Mr. DORION moved for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of criminal justice in certain cases as respects the Province of New Brunswick. The object of the bill was merely to explain what was the meaning of the words "Competent magistrate," as regarded New Brunswick. It was also to extend the words to any Recorder, Judge of County Court, or Police Magistrate. This course had been suggested by one of the judges of New Brunswick, who complained that the law was too restricted.

The motion was carried, and the bill was read a first time.

SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair, and that the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider the supply to be granted to Her Majesty. As had already been stated, it would be necessary to make the financial statement in Committee of Ways and Means, and the steps he proposed to take, according to the English practice, would admit of the statement being made on Tuesday. He would refer to his right hon. friend from Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) as to whether he was right in this matter.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said his hon. friend would require to take concurrence on Monday in order to allow the statement to be made on Tuesday. He had not studied the late practice in England, but he thought his hon. friend the Minister of Finance had so far proceeded upon the principle that the old form of procedure would obtain as to that matter.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the motions for Ways and Means and Supply should have been moved at once, and he was surprised to see they were not placed in this way upon the orders.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said this arose from the opinion entertained by the Minister of Finance that the Committee of Ways and Means would be constituted in the old way.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it would be necessary that the motion for Ways and Means should be made and put upon the paper at once.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that in England they appeared to consider that under the motion he had submitted the House might go straight into Committee of Ways and Means and the statement might be made on the succeeding day or on the next Government day. Probably, however, it would be better to adopt the suggestion of his right hon. friend from Kingston.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, **Mr. JONES (Halifax)** in the chair.

The items of $2,050 for the Chief Clerk in the Governor General's Office was carried.

On motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**,

The Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again on Tuesday.

* * *

THE BUDGET

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT gave notice that he would, on Tuesday next, move the House into Committee of Ways and Means to consider the supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

* * *

THE ELECTION BILL

Hon. Mr. DORION said he had hoped to be able to go on with

the Election Bill today, but it had been impossible to get it printed in time. He thought the copies might possibly be distributed this afternoon.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said time ought to be allowed to hon. members to consider the Bill after it was distributed.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he hoped the Bill would be distributed in English tomorrow, and in French on Monday.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked when the second reading would be moved.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it would perhaps be better for him to say that he would not move it until Thursday at the earliest.

* * *

DEMANDS ON VESSELS

The House went into Committee on Mr. Kirkpatrick's (Frontenac) resolutions, declaring it expedient to make further provision for the collection of demands against vessels navigating certain lakes and inland waters, in Canada.

Mr. RYAN in the chair.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) said he was entirely opposed to the principles of the resolutions, and should oppose them when they were incorporated in the form of a bill. Further, he added that this was a class of legislation which should be taken up by the Government.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON concurred with the member for Huron South, and condemned the course pursued by the late Government in regard to a measure similar to this. He thought the Government should take the responsibility of either opposing or pushing this measure.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD humorously referred to the fact of his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) continuing to smile and to object, whereas he had anticipated that on his changing sides in the House he would have done with this kind of thing. He also commented on the difference of the course pursued by the member for Châteauguay on the motion of Mr. Bowell (Hastings North) yesterday, when he stated that the Government had nothing to do with it, while today he added that another measure was the exclusive function of the Government.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that he did not consider that at present was the time for the Government to say whether or not they would assume control of the measure, the resolutions being at present so vague; besides, there was a question of jurisdiction involved. He suggested that Mr. Kirkpatrick should wait until the return of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Hon. Mr. Smith).

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said he could not wait till the return of that Minister, as it might prejudice the passage of the measure this session.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL urged that the measure be passed, adding that a measure of this kind had been too long delayed.

Hon. Mr. DORION supposed the hon. gentleman did not charge the delay on the present Government.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he did not, but he thought his hon. friend would agree with him that the late Government had not neglected their duty in legislating on navigation and shipping.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, upon the question of jurisdiction, insisted that this House had to do with measures connected with navigation, and it was not the function of the Local Legislatures.

After a brief, but playful discussion, taken part in by Hon. Messrs. Holton, Mitchell, and Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,

Mr. KIRKPATRICK contended that his question belonged to this House under the Head of "Shipping" and not to the Local Legislatures under the head of "Civil Rights". He would withdraw his measure if the Government would promise to deal with this important matter. The old Bill had received the support of the present leader of the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had never supported all the provisions of the Bill. He had believed then, as he believed now, that it was necessary to do something respecting some of the points contained in the Bill, but he had never committed himself to the whole of the provisions of former Bills, nor did he intend to do so with regard to the present measure. At the same time, he would be willing to consider its provisions when it was introduced.

The Committee rose and reported the resolutions, and the bill founded on them was read a first time. The second reading is appointed for Monday.

* * *

TORONTO IN THE ESTIMATES

Mr. WILKES withdrew the following questions, as the information he required was in the estimates, viz.: Whether the Government intend to place in the estimates an appropriation for the erection of a suitable examining warehouse and bonded storehouse in the city of Toronto; whether it is the intention of the Government to ask for a re-vote of the appropriation of last year for a complete survey of the harbour of the city of Toronto.

* * *

INSPECTION OF HIDES (QUEBEC)

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE asked whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint an inspector of hides and leather for the city of Quebec, in the stead of Mr. Aldéric Fortin, who has provisionally exercised the functions of inspector since the lst September, 1873; and whether the Government intends to make the appointment at once.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the Government had the matter under consideration, and a decision had not yet been come to in the matter.

* * *

LOCKS ON THE OTTAWA RIVER

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) asked whether it was the intention of the Government to place in the Estimates an appropriation for the purpose of constructing locks at Paquette's Rapids and the Allumette Rapids on the Ottawa River, or for otherwise improving navigation at those points, so as to admit of the passage of steamers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said one of the surveying staff of the Public Works Department was now engaged at these points, and any operations would depend on that officer's report, which had not yet been received.

* * *

BANK OF UPPER CANADA

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) put the following questions:—The state of the affairs of the Bank of Upper Canada; when its business is likely to be wound up, and whether any determination has been come to with regard to enforcing against the stockholders the Government claim which will be unpaid when the assets have been realized.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said Government had taken all possible steps to get the assets realized by selling the property and otherwise. The question of the double liability was one involving such considerable difficulty, on account of the long delay and the removal by death or otherwise of so many of the stockholders, that it required the further consideration of Government before they came to any decision on that point.

* * *

DETROIT RIVER NAVIGATION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. member for Kent (Mr. Stephenson) had, perhaps, better put his question—whether any instructions have been given to any person or persons to buoy out the Canadian channel in the Detroit River below and in the vicinity of the town of Amherstburg, and, if not, whether it is the intention of the Government to take any steps in that direction; also, whether a light ship is to be maintained during the present season of navigation at the Government expense on the dangerous reef, situated on Lake Erie, opposite the Township of Colchester, in the County of Essex. The Government were prepared to answer it, and its presence on the order paper indicated that there was some difficulty in the navigation there. It was not well this impression should go abroad.

Mr. ROCHESTER: He (Mr. Stephenson) is not here.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said in that case he would feel bound to answer the question, whether it remained on the paper or not. The river was buoyed out last year by the Department of Marine and Fisheries at a considerable expense. As soon as navigation opened this year the buoys had been placed there again. With regard to the rocks which impeded navigation, correspondence was being carried on at present with the United States Government, with a view of, by joint action, removing any obstacles that exist. In the meantime the river was quite clear, and the channel was pointed out by buoys. With regard to the maintenance of the lightship, the Government had given $500 a year for the maintenance of the lightship, and the present Government proposed to continue that arrangement at present.

* * *

THE HON. WILLIAM McDOUGALL

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) asked whether the Hon. William McDougall was still in the employ of the Government in any capacity; if so, at what salary; if not in Government employ, when did he cease to be so employed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said Mr. McDougall was still in the employ of the Government in the capacity of a sort of general Emigration Agent in the Northern States of Europe. His engagement terminated tomorrow, April 11th, and his salary was $200 a month with allowances for travelling expenses. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had some reason to believe that the present Superintendent of Emigration in England (Mr. Jenkins) had made some further arrangement of a temporary kind with Mr. McDougall in relation to the business of his office.

* * *

INCREASE OF SALARIES

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) moved for an address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House copies of all Orders in Council for Departmental orders, giving an increase of salary to parties in the public service between the 1st of January and the 7th November, 1873, showing the name or names of the person or persons who received such increase, and also the dates of such increase.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had made a similar motion to this the other day, which would probably cover all Mr. Cameron required. He thought it should have been presented before this.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the motion was sent through the regular course and he presumed the return would be prepared directly. It would, he thought, cover most of the ground of this motion, but there was one general Order in Council devoted to the increase of salaries, and that could be furnished with the other papers.

The motion carried.

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NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Mr. CHARLTON moved a resolution:—"That in the opinion of this House a geographical and geological examination of the Northwest territory should be undertaken at the earliest practicable moment, with a view to obtaining reliable information as to the extent, varieties of the soil, general character, and most northerly and easterly limits of the portion of that region adapted to the successful cultivation of cereals; as to the mineral deposits, and the geological formation of the same; and as to the extent, character, and commercial value of its forests, both within and outside of the

portion of the country adapted to cultivation. That the examination include observations for latitude and longitude, and measurement of altitude; and that the information thus obtained be placed before the people of Canada and Great Britain by reports printed and circulated at public expense, fully setting forth the information obtained; and that emigration to that region should be further promoted through the translation of such reports into the French and German and Scandinavian languages, and the free circulation of the same in France, in the German States, and in Denmark, Sweden, and Norway."

He had moved a similar resolution last year, but the vote was not taken on that occasion. But very few of our people realized the character of our great Northwest—that domain which contained 2,700,000 sq. miles. Our information on that country was very incomplete. It had been frequented by trappers, voyageurs, fur-dealers, and agents of the Hudson's Bay Company; and these people had been interested in concealing from the people information which they needed, and thus we were in the dark to a great extent. The United States Government had taken seventeen years in exploring the country, with a view to locating a railway a thousand miles less in length than our Pacific line would be.

It might turn out to be to our interest to carry the road farther north than had been contemplated, so as to carry it over the Rocky Mountains near the Peace River Canyon. It might be to our advantage to make the western terminus north of the northern extremity of Vancouver's Island, so far away from San Juan that the decision of the Emperor of Germany would make no difference in that report.

There was another feature in this great country worthy of consideration, that was the supply to timber which must, before very long, be of great value; in fact, a considerable portion of it was sent to the Prairie States. We also wanted to know something of the mineral resource of that country, whether there were those rich deposits of iron and coal in that region which were supposed to exist, and which would make it the seat of empire in the future. We had reason to believe that the country was enormously rich in minerals, and the sooner we could show the world that this was so the sooner the country would be settled.

He did not propose to urge the necessity of making a detailed geographical and geological survey of the country, but he thought they might with advantage follow the course taken by the United States in this respect. They had reduced the exploration of new territory and the means of procuring immigration to a perfect system. He instanced the expedition of Col. Fremont, and remarked that by comparatively inexpensive expeditions of that kind the Northwest might be traversed in every direction in a few years.

He need not say anything to this House as to the importance of securing immigration to this country; and he was sorry that he was unable to compliment the Government that had gone out of power on the efforts it had made, or the success it had obtained in regard to securing for this country a fair proportion of emigrants who come to this continent. During the ten years ending lst of January, 1874, 225,191 persons had come to this country, while during the same period, the immigration to the United States had numbered 3,292,208. If the immigration to Canada had been in proportion to population, as compared with the United States, it would have exceeded 32,000 per annum, instead of an average of 22,519. With a population one-tenth of that of the United States, we had an immigration of only one-fifteenth. The census returns of the United States of 1870 showed that a drain had been going on upon our resources of which we had not been aware.

There were 493,000 Canadians in the United States, besides those of foreign extraction who, after residence in this country, had crossed the lines. He thought they might reckon that, including the families of all these persons, this country had lost a million inhabitants. The year 1873 presented a more favourable aspect. During that year we had rather more than our fair proportion of immigration, numbering 50,050 against 459,803 who immigrated to the United States, so that we had gained more than one-tenth of the whole immigration to the shore of America. He was happy that the omens were so auspicious that the tide of immigration had turned, and urged upon the Government the necessity of using every means in its power to increase the immigration to British America.

It was estimated that every immigrant added $1,500 to the wealth of the country. If that was true the United States had in ten years added $4,500,000,000 to their wealth, and we had added over $300,000,000 to our wealth, last year alone having added $75,000,000. We had great undeveloped resources, we wanted men to develop them, and the necessity of getting men to develop them was his excuse for troubling the House with this motion. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said that in most respects he agreed with the hon. member, and especially as to the propriety of making a survey. The result of recent explorations in the Fertile Belt showed that along the rivers there was an abundance of coal to be found of a very useful although not a very excellent character. Coal in the Province of Manitoba cost $20 per ton, but when a supply could be got from the valley of the Saskatchewan and Assiniboine the price would be at least reduced by one-half. It has also been shown that further north there was not only abundance of coal but also plenty of iron; and it was of great importance to have both these minerals in one vicinity.

He did not think it would be desirable to go so far north as the hon. gentleman proposed, but there was plenty to do and plenty to explore much nearer the settled portion of the country. So soon as there was a railway into the country, which he hoped would be very soon, he expected to see a very large amount of immigration in the Northwest, and nothing could tend more to the prosperity of the country than such an immigration.

He pointed out the growing manufacturing interests of the Province of Manitoba, and felt sure that some such survey as his hon. friend proposed would tend largely to the good of the whole Northwest.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) said he was surprised that the proposition contained in this motion was not carried out six years ago. He spoke very strongly against the mad Pacific Railway policy of the late Government, which was only prevented from being carried into effect and loading this country with a burden of debt

from which it could not have recovered for ages, by the good sense of English capitalists. He referred to his past opinions upon the opening up of the Northwest and the establishment of trade communications with the West Indian islands, but he never contemplated that four million people would be asked to build the great trans-continental railway from British Columbia to the East end; certainly he never could have thought that any Government would have proceeded with the work without knowing where the line was going to be built.

The ignorance with regard to the Northwest Territory had in no way been as yet dispelled, nor had anything been done which would, to any great extent, throw light upon the character of that country. It had not yet been ascertained, for instance, whether the Fertile Belt was north or south of the Saskatchewan. At one time we were assured that it was all on the north; now equally grave assurances were given that a large portion of it was to the south.

He pointed out—turning attention for a moment to the Republic south of the line—that their climate, breadth of country, and political and geographical situation, begetting as they did difference of race and diversity of interests, would tend to internal jealousies and ultimate severance. The Dominion of Canada, beyond any country upon this continent, presented features which made it more likely to endure, in fact beyond any nation that had ever risen in the world. The time was about come, in his opinion, when we should take upon ourselves the responsibilities of a nation. He was just as anxious for British connection as anybody, and hoped we should remain for ever upon friendly terms with that great Power.

Hon. gentlemen on the opposite side of the House—and he hoped they would long remain on the other side of the House—(*Hear, hear*)—should have ascertained six years ago where the Pacific Railway was to be located before they undertook to build it, and committed this country to it; but not one of them had up to the present time the least idea of it in their noddle. (*Cheers.*) The best emigration agents we could send to Europe were, in his opinion, the letters of successful emigrants to their friends. He hoped before this railway was proceeded with that the survey proposed by the hon. member for Norfolk North (Mr. Charlton) would be proceeded with and completed. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the Government had just lately determined on sending a party out in that direction for the purpose of establishing the base lines of townships, and that company would be one which would form the nucleus for scientific observations upon the circumstances referred to by the hon. member. It was the intention to send the best men connected with the Geological Survey for that purpose, and so far as it would be prudent to go, the desire of the Government in this matter had been provided for. The information would be sooner obtained, of course, by a large expenditure of money at once, but under the present circumstances it was, perhaps, not advisable to go much further in this matter just now than the Government had already determined to do.

It must take a series of years to settle that country, and enquiries, and reports founded upon them, would be made by the party he referred to with regard to the localities where valuable deposits of coal and iron were to be found. If published from time to time these reports would be a great incentive to settlement in that district. He had no objection to the motion, which was simply in the same direction as the steps already taken by the Government.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he thought the motion could not pass in its present form, which pledged this House and country to proceed with this examination as soon as possible, without regard to expense. As soon as possible meant the opening of navigation and he did not think that the Government would be justified in agreeing to the motion in that form.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he believed the hon. gentleman had moved this resolution simply with a desire to bring the subject before the House. He had himself called the hon. gentleman's attention to the fact that the resolution could not pass in its present form, and the hon. gentleman, in reply, informed him that he did not desire its passing, but made it simply for the purpose already stated. It was well, however, that the country should know that measures had been taken by the Department of his hon. friend, who had just spoken to effect a tolerably fair examination of the country, with a view to adopting base lines following the general direction of the isothermal lines across the country.

The information in the Government possession with regard to that country was not very great, although it was known, with absolute certainty, that the very best land it contained was situated north of the Saskatchewan and south of the Peace River. The Government must consider what was necessary, not merely for the settlement of the country, but in choosing the line of the railway, which location would really be of benefit to the greatest extent of territory, and give the shortest possible route to the other side of the country. The subject which the hon. gentleman had brought before the House would, as it had already done, receive the careful attention of the Government.

The geological surveys of last year has proved that the coal fields of the Northwest were both more extensive, and the coal was itself of better quality than was expected. The lignite found on the plains, as referred to by the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith), was of an inferior quality, but the existence of coal of superior quality in some quarters, although it was not known to what extent, was yet conclusively proved, and it only remained to be developed.

The whole subject was one which must command the attention of this or any Government which existed in this country. To a great extent it affected the migration which flowed into the Dominion, and the attention of Government would be directed very specially to everything which would be likely to enable the immigrants to get easily, quickly and cheaply into the Northwest. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. CHARLTON was satisfied that the Government would not fail to do everything that he desired when opportunity offered. He had the fullest confidence in them in that respect, and having thus brought the subject before the House he desired to withdraw his motion.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE requested leave to say, with reference to the latter part of the hon. gentleman's motion, where he spoke of the desirability of having documents translated into the French, German, and Scandinavian languages, that Mr. McDougall, the

agent of the Dominion in the north of Europe, had expended some $7,000 or $8,000 during the last few months of 1873 for the purpose; so that information had been well distributed in the countries referred to by means of books, pamphlets, and articles in newspapers.

The motion was then withdrawn.

* * *

POSTMASTER OF LANARK

Mr. HAGGART moved for correspondence relating to the dismissal of Mr. Munro from the office of Postmaster in Lanark. He said that gentleman had lately been dismissed by the present Government without any reason being assigned, and a gentleman put into the office by the Government who had been discharged by the late Administration from the same position for alleged defalcation. The charges which had been made against the gentleman referred to had been enquired into by a Commission, and it was found that there was general dissatisfaction throughout the country with regard to him. It was after that his discharge was assented to. He thought the conduct of the Government in this matter was very strange indeed and required explanation.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) regretted the course taken in this matter by his hon. friend from Lanark. If the papers only were produced to the House, all the desired information would not be before it. He would therefore have to add the papers connected with the dismissal of Mr. Robinson, the predecessor of Mr. Munro, by the late Government. The hon. member should have deferred his remarks until the papers were brought down, and the reply which those remarks would call for he would defer until the information was fully before the House.

Mr. GALBRAITH said that last year he moved for papers connected with dismissal of Mr. Robinson, and they were brought down only a few days before the session closed. The new Government thought proper to reinstate the former occupant of the office, and he thought justly. He did not think there was any charge against Mr. Munro, who discharged his duties honestly and satisfactorily, and what had been done had simply been done as an act of justice to Mr. Robinson for his dismissal by the late Government. The hon. member for Lanark South (Mr. Haggart) said the principal reason for that dismissal was the general want of confidence in him by the business men of the locality. He was made aware of the proceedings for the dismissal of Mr. Robinson last year by the hon. member for Lanark South; and upon enquiry at the Department he found that the order for the dismissal had been made at that time but not carried out.

He informed the people of Lanark of these proceedings, and they got up a petition, in the course of a few days, protesting against the dismissal, and respectfully submitting that as he was a man who, in their opinion, would be incapable of anything which was not proper, in a businessman, and as he had given almost universal satisfaction, the Government should retain him in his position. The petition was signed by 149 of the inhabitants of Lanark village and the country surrounding it; and when the fact was known that there were only about half a dozen people who were connected with this difficulty, they would see how far the interests of the people were consulted in this dismissal.

After some discussion,

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said that he would submit all papers with regard to the dismissal of Mr. Munro, as well as of Mr. Robinson, who had been previously dismissed. Mr. Munro had not been dismissed on account of any bad conduct, but rather as an act of justice to Mr. Robinson.

The motion, with the addition suggested by the Postmaster General, was then carried.

* * *

HARBOURS, PIERS AND BREAKWATERS

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) moved for an address to His Excellency the Governor General for a return showing the amount expended by the several local Governments on all harbours, piers and breakwaters in the Dominion prior to 1867 and since July, 1867, by the Dominion Government, and also the amounts expended on all such works by any local Companies, Municipal authorities, Railway Companies, Harbour Commissioners, or any other Companies or persons, before or since July 1st, 1867.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had no objection to the motion, and would furnish the information asked for so far as was in their power; but he might state to his hon. friend that it would be impossible to furnish it all.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PORT COLBORNE HARBOUR

Mr. McCALLUM moved for correspondence between the Government and Mr. George Neilson and Co. and contractors for the enlargement and deepening of the harbour at Port Colborne, Lake Erie, in reference to their contract, and a statement of the work done by the said contractor. In making the motion he condemned the late Government for their policy in connection with the Welland Canal, and the fixing of the terminus at Port Colborne instead of Port Maitland. He also stated that they had expended $200,000 upon the Goderich harbour in order to spoil it, and now they would have to expend another $200,000 in order to make it what it was before. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

He contended that Port Colborne was not the best place for the canal terminus, and now that there was a practical man at the head of the Government—(*Hear, hear*)—he hoped that the Commission to be granted would take evidence as to the best route and the best place for fixing the port; or that competent engineers would be appointed to make a report who had not as yet expressed any opinion upon the subject, or had their views in any way prejudiced. He hoped that his application would not be shoved under the table by this Government, as it was by the last. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*)

He could find numbers of competent men able to furnish the best security, who would be willing to undertake to bring the Welland

Canal from the Lake to the Grand River for two and a half million dollars, and though the route by Port Maitland was longer than the other by ten or eleven miles, it saved a lake journey of twenty miles as well as a large expenditure of money. He hoped the hon. gentleman at the head of the Government would consent to the motion, and that the change which he desired would be made. The question was simply one of justice, not only to his (Mr. McCallum's) constituents, but to the interest of the country generally.

Mr. NORRIS said he did not know that there could be any material objections to giving the hon. member the information he asked for. He presumed that all wanted to know the facts of the case, but so far as the comparative merits of Port Maitland and Port Colborne were concerned as the terminus for the canal, he differed entirely from the hon. gentleman. Every report that had ever been made on the subject by the most competent engineers of the country was in favour of Port Colborne. He had himself sailed through the canal and up the lakes for a great number of years, and he knew the difference between the two places. Seamen did not like to go to Port Maitland because the current of the Grand River troubled them.

He believed Mr. Page, the Chief Engineer of the Public Works Department, had examined the matter and reported that it would cost nearly double to make the canal have its outlet at Port Maitland than it would cost to build it to Port Colborne. It was true that there was some rock at the latter place which had to be taken out, but that work had been already begun, and it would cost far less than the hon. member had endeavoured to show that it would. He was quite satisfied that Port Colborne could be made a complete and good harbour.

To save eleven miles of a canal route, even if it entailed twenty miles of a lake route, was something that any seaman would be personally willing to accede to. Everyone acquainted with navigation knew that twenty miles of straight sailing could be done in half the time that a vessel would be going eleven miles through a canal. It was the only argument which on the face of it had any force against the selection of Port Colborne and it fell to the ground.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that there was no objection to the hon. gentleman's motion. It was quite right that the allegations made by the hon. gentleman should be enquired into. In fact, he had promised the hon. gentleman's predecessor that the matter would be enquired into. If the facts were such as had been stated, the Government could have no possible object except to take the course which was for the interest of the country. The views of the engineers and those engaged in shipping must be consulted, and the question of the excavation of the rock at Port Colborne to which the hon. gentleman had referred must also be taken into consideration. If the hon. gentleman could show a softer bottom and more of it, all the better. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. McCALLUM said that with deference to the opinion of his hon. friend from Lincoln (Mr. Norris), who as a practical sailor must know a great deal about the matter, he must yet differ from him as to the comparative merit of the two ports. He replied briefly to the arguments made use of by the hon. gentleman in favour of Port Colborne.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

BRITISH COLUMBIAN MAIL CONTRACT

Mr. De COSMOS moved for the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria, B.C., respecting the cancelling of the mail contract with the owners of the steamship *Prince Alfred*. In doing so, he said he took the opportunity of calling the attention of the Government to the importance of the matter at the present time.

The contract between the owners of the steamship *Prince Alfred* and the Government amounted to some $74,000 per annum. He believed she was the best steamship that could be obtained on the occasion of the contract being made to carry mails and passengers between San Francisco and Victoria; but there now existed a great deal of dissatisfaction on account of the long time she occupied in travelling between these two points. The distance did not exceed 800 miles by sea, and the time consumed in the journey averaged four to six days.

The firm of Malcolm, Hudson & Co. were running a regular line of steamers between San Francisco and China and Japan and they had drawn the attention of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria to a proposition to call with their steamers four times a month on their way from San Francisco to China and Japan, and vice versa. He was not aware of the amount of subsidy they would ask for this service but Mr. Hudson was now on his way from Japan to San Francisco, and would possibly soon be here. The steamships belonging to the Company were first-class ocean-going vessels of 3,000 tons burthen, and would make the passage in two days and a half from Victoria to San Francisco. This would be an immense advantage to travellers between the two ports; it would be a great acceleration in the transit of mails, and altogether it would be very advantageous to men engaged in business in Victoria.

He believed if such an arrangement were come to with the Government, all the traffic going from Oregon and Washington Territory to China and Japan would be sent through Victoria instead of by San Francisco, as at present; and the business from China and Japan with these States would return the same way. He believed a considerable portion of the exports from these States to other places would then also pass through Esquimalt, and thus increase the trade of that portion of the Dominion.

The next point to which he would draw the attention of the Government was that these steamships calling four times a month would take in very large supplies, and he calculated that in all probability some 25,000 tons of coal would be embarked per annum at a cost of $200,000. This would also be a very considerable addition to the industries of the Dominion in the Province of British Columbia. When the proposition would be made by Mr. Malcolm Hudson to the Government he hoped they would fairly and carefully consider it, and he also hoped they would see their way to accede to it as adding greatly to the commercial importance of Esquimalt and shortening the passage between Victoria and San Francisco, China and Japan.

Mr. DEWDNEY said the passage between Victoria and San Francisco for the past twelve months had been made by the

steamship *Prince Alfred* in four days on the average. He thought it was very imprudent at the time to make any application to the Government for an increased subsidy, as it looked so very like asking better terms for British Columbia, which none of the members from that Province came to this House to advocate.

Mr. De COSMOS said he by no means intended to convey the idea that the steamship *Prince Alfred* was not doing all that was expected of her at the time the contract was entered upon. What he did desire the Government to understand was that the people of Victoria were not satisfied with the service she was able to render, and the present was a most opportune time for making a better arrangement.

The motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It being six o'clock,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought considering the small amount of business on the paper, that it would not be worthwhile for members to return to the House after recess. He, therefore, moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was carried, and the House adjourned at six o'clock.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—On Tuesday next—Bill respecting the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, and the Improvement of the River St. Lawrence between Quebec and Montreal.

Mr. WALKER—On Monday next—A return of the number of railway cars, both freight and passenger, that have been imported at various times from the United States by our Canadian Railway Companies, since the first day of January, 1873; also their value, and the duties paid on the same by each individual Company.

Mr. PALMER—Enquiry of the Ministry, whether or not it is the intention of the Government to introduce any, and what, measure during the present session to restrict or prevent the importation into or the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors within the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. PLUMB—On Monday next—Address for a list of persons to whom contracts have been awarded for the construction of the several sections of the works now in progress, or hereafter to be commenced, on the Welland Canal, with the names of their sureties. Also, for a list of all the tenders made for the same specifying the names of the persons so tendering, the sections for which they severally tendered, and the amount of each tender.

Mr. BROUSE—On Monday next—Committee to consider the expediency of asking legislation with a view to constituting a bureau of Sanitary Statistics in connection with one of the Public Departments.

Mr. WALKER—On Monday next—Enquiry whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint an Inspector of Railways for the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD—On Monday next—Bill entitled an Act respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion lands in Manitoba.

Mr. DOMVILLE—On Monday next—Select Committee of seven members to enquire into the mercantile agency system now in operation in Canada.

Mr. POULIOT—On Tuesday next—Address for, lst, a statement of the extra work done by the contractors on sections 1 and 2 of the Intercolonial Railway; 2nd, a statement of the amounts paid to persons who have made claims for work done on the said sections and materials furnished out of the $80,000 granted to the contractors for the said sections in pursuance of the resolution adopted by this House on the 21st May, 1873.

Mr. NORRIS—On Monday next—Enquiry of the Ministry whether any correspondence has taken place between the Government of Canada and the American Government with a view to abolishing the regulations making it imperative on all Canadian vessels to call and report at Duncan City, in the Straits of Mackinaw, before entering Lake Michigan, also in reference to the tonnage tax imposed annually on Canadian vessels in American ports.

Mr. ORTON—On Monday next—That leave be granted to suspend the role of the House in reference to the number of Select Committees, and that the Committee on Agricultural Interests be increased to twenty-one members.

Mr. PALMER—Enquiry of the Ministry—In view of the statement of the Hon. Premier to the House, that it is not the intention of the Government to apply for an amnesty for any offenses committed by the persons engaged in the insurrection in the Northwest Territory in 1869 at present, whether or not they intend to make such an application at any time, and, if so when?

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton)—Whether the Government have under consideration the establishment of a system whereby the capacity and ability of the masters and subordinate officers of the vessels navigating our inland waters can be determined and known, a system to some extent analogous to that prevailing in England, whereby certificates of fitness are granted after an examination passed, and taken away for misconduct or incapacity.

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton)—Whether the Government will transfer the branch line of railway between Truro and Pictou to aid in extending the line of railroad eastward through Cape Breton.

Mr. HAGGART—Whether it is the intention of the Government, during the present session, to introduce a Bill for the purpose of re-arranging the constituencies, or any of them, for electoral purposes.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE gave notice that on Monday next he will put the following question:—Whether it is the intention of the Government to carry out the plans proposed in the report of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries for 1872, for restoring our exhausted oyster fisheries by setting apart the oyster beds in New Brunswick and Quebec for three years.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 13, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m. and the House sat for some time with closed doors.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions were presented, praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. MOSS presented six petitions from the Licensed Victuallers of the City of Toronto praying that the House will not pass a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. DOMVILLE presented a petition from the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company praying for an amendment to their Act of Incorporation.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) presented several petitions praying that the Township of Tuckersmith be annexed to the South riding of the County of Huron for county purposes.

Mr. MOSS presented a petition from the Toronto Manufacturing Company, and one from the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Co., praying for an Act of amalgamation; also a petition from the Great Western Railway Co., praying for amendments to their charter; also, from the Farmers' and Mechanics' Loan and Savings Society, praying for an Act to amend their Act of incorporation.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON presented a petition praying for an Act of Incorporation for an insurance company.

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RETURN

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER laid on the table the Inland Revenue returns for 1872-1873.

* * *

REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. BODWELL presented the first report of the Committee on the Prohibitory Liquor Law, and a motion for a reduction of the quorum to five was carried.

Mr. SCATCHERD brought up the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, recommending that Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry, the ex-Speaker of the Prince Edward Island Legislature who was lately elected to the House of Commons, having taken every step in his power to resign his seat in the said Legislature, be allowed to take his seat in the House, and that a bill of indemnity be introduced and passed for his protection.

Mr. SCATCHERD moved the adoption of the report, but the motion was allowed to stand.

Mr. ORTON presented the first report of the Select Committee on Agricultural Interests, which was subsequently adopted.

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DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down the report of the Minister of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD brought down the report of the Minister of the Interior.

* * *

PRINTING COMMITTEE

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved that the first report of the Standing Committee on Printing, recommending a reduction of the quorum to nine, be concurred in.—Carried.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Mr. MACKENZIE (Montreal West)—To incorporate the National Transportation Association.

Mr. DOMVILLE—To amend the Act incorporating the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South)—To amend the Act 35 Vic., Cap. 13, to change the electoral division of the County of Huron South.

* * *

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Mr. ORTON moved the adoption of the report of the Committee on Agricultural Interests, recommending the reduction of the quorum to five.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought that as the Committee consisted of thirteen members its quorum should not be reduced to less than seven at any rate.

Mr. DYMOND thought as the hon. member had a notice on the paper of a motion to increase the number of the Committee itself, he ought to endeavour by that means to galvanize it into life before he reduced its quorum. (*Hear, hear.*)

The report was adopted and the quorum reduced to five.

* * *

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was authorized to announce that a Bill to consolidate the mortgages and other preferential charges of the Grand Trunk Railway Company has received the assent of the Crown.

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CAUGHNAWAGA SHIP CANAL

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company. The bill was referred to the Committee on Canals, Railways, and Telegraph Lines.

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

Mr. IRVING moved the second reading of the bill to consolidate the mortgages and other preferential charges of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, and for raising further capital, and for establishing a Superannuation and Provident Fund Association.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON objecting that it was not printed in his vernacular, the order was allowed to stand.

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THE PACIFIC RAILWAY BILL

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that perhaps his hon. friend could inform the House when it was likely the Government would bring down their Pacific Railway measure.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he hoped to submit it in perhaps a week or two. He was anxious that the report of the Chief Engineer should first be presented to the House, and the members have an opportunity to peruse it. The proof would be completed today, he thought, and the Bill would likely be distributed in one or two days.

* * *

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE

Mr. IRVING enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to abolish postage charges upon newspapers published in the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry): The Government have not arrived at a decision in the matter. (*Hear, hear.*)

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DELIVERY OF LETTERS

Mr. IRVING enquired whether it is the intention of Government to establish a system of free delivery of letters and postal matter in the cities of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry): The matter is now engaging the attention of Government. (*Hear, hear and laughter.*)

* * *

DETROIT RIVER CHANNEL

Mr. STEPHENSON asked whether any instructions have been given to any person or persons to buoy out the Canadian channel in Detroit River below and in the vicinity of the town of Amherstburg; and, if not, whether it is the intention of the Government to take any steps in that direction; also whether a lightship is to be maintained during the present season of navigation at Government expense on the dangerous reef situated on Lake Erie, opposite the Township of Colchester, in the County of Essex. He added that he noticed the Minister of Public Works had answered the question in his absence, and he therefore put it now so that it might be taken off the paper.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had answered the question in the absence of the hon. gentleman, because he desired that no misunderstanding should be allowed to get abroad regarding the matter to which it referred.

* * *

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. IRVING enquired whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce this session a Bill to repeal the Act passed in the 35th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled an Act to Amend the Criminal Law relating to violence, threats and molestation, and generally known as the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that he noticed that in the British Parliament Mr. Disraeli had appointed a Commission to enquire into the criminal law relating to violence, threats, and molestation, and to ascertain what amendments were required in England. It was not, therefore, the intention of the Government to take any action in the matter until the report of that Commission would be received and the amendments which it might propose could be considered.

* * *

MONTREAL EXAMINING WAREHOUSE

Mr. RYAN enquired whether it is the intention of Government to build an examining warehouse in Montreal during the present year.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the plans were now being prepared, and the work would be proceeded with as rapidly as possible.

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OCEAN MAIL SERVICE

Mr. RYAN enquired whether any mail contract has recently been made respecting ocean mail service with any company or persons, and, if so, with whom.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said there had been no contact made with any ocean company, but arrangements would probably be made with the Dominion Steamship Company to carry

extra mails from United States ports, which would arrive in England two or three days after the Quebec mail.

* * *

BRAS D'OR LAKE

Mr. McDONALD inquired whether it is the intention of the governments to expend the sum of $6,000, voted in 1873, for deepening the entrance to Bras D'Or Lake at Little Bras D'Or.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the sum mentioned, if expended for the purpose of deepening the harbour, would have no practical effect upon its present state. A very much larger sum would be required in order to have any effect whatever upon the harbour; but in the meantime, it would be necessary to see whether anything was required to be done to make the harbour immediately accessible.

* * *

IMPORTATION OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS

Mr. PALMER inquired whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce any, and what, measure during the present session to restrict or prevent the importation into or the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors within the Dominion of Canada.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the Government to introduce any such measure.

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INSPECTION OF RAILWAYS

In answer to Mr. Walker,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was not the intention of the Government to appoint an Inspector of Railways for the Dominion.

* * *

RE-ARRANGEMENT OF CONSTITUENCIES

Mr. HAGGART enquired whether it is the intention of the Government, during the present session, to introduce a Bill for this purpose of re-arranging the constituencies or any of them, for election purposes.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the Government to introduce such a Bill.

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THE NORTHWEST INSURRECTION

Mr. PALMER enquired whether, in view of the statement of the Hon. the Premier to this House that it is not the intention of the Government to apply for an amnesty for any offense committed by the persons engaged in the insurrection in the Northwest Territory in 1869, at present, they intend to make such an application at any time, and if so when.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government will be most happy, when they have arrived at a conclusion upon any subject whatever, to communicate with the hon. gentleman. (*Hear, hear, and great laughter.*)

CERTIFICATES FOR SHIPS' OFFICERS ON INLAND WATERS

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) enquired whether the Government had under consideration the establishment of a system whereby the capacity and ability of the masters, engineers, and subordinate officers of vessels navigating our inland waters can be determined and known, a system to some extent analogous to that prevailing in England, whereby certificates of fitness are granted after an examination passed, and taken away for misconduct or incapability.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government were very anxious to consider the matter, especially in reference to the navigation of the lakes and inland waters; but the hon. gentleman would observe that the circumstances were not the same as those prevailing in England. Officers employed on such vessels were not always required to be seamen, and it would be scarcely possible to have the same system of examination as that to which the hon. member referred as prevailing in the Mother Country; but the Government had considered it necessary to devise some scheme which would ensure the safety of life to a greater extent than the present system provided, and a measure would be submitted in a few days which would take as much action with regard to the matter as the Government saw their way to do.

* * *

PUBLICATION OF STATUTES, ORDERS IN COUNCIL, ETC.

Mr. MILLS said he handed in a question upon Thursday evening which did not appear upon the notice paper, and he thought the Government might perhaps be prepared to answer it now without further notice. He would ask the Government whether any steps had been taken to ensure the printing and publication of Statutes, Orders in Council, et cetera, et cetera.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he believed the hon. gentlemen opposite, two or three days before they left office, gave an order for 27,000 copies of what his hon. friend referred to. The Government thought it proper, however, to reduce the number a good many thousands.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Hear, hear.

* * *

NOVA SCOTIA BETTER TERMS

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved for an address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence or communications between the Government or any member thereof, and the Government of Nova Scotia or any member thereof, in reference to the act to readjust the amounts payable to, and chargeable against, the several Provinces of Canada, Vic. 36, Cap. 30, with all minutes of Council of the Government of Canada in relation to the above named Act.

His principal reason in making the motion, he said, was to enable him to make a statement which was due to himself and his colleagues from Nova Scotia who were members of the late Government and the last Parliament. It appeared some difference of

opinion had arisen, and some misunderstanding had taken place, in regard to this matter.

It would be recollected that when the late Minister of Finance introduced resolutions into the House re-adjusting the public debt, assuming the indebtedness borne by the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and making a corresponding adjustment with reference to the other Provinces, a question was raised as to what the effect would be upon the amount payable to the Province of Nova Scotia. In the Union Act the amount of subsidy was laid down at $8,000,000; but in 1869 an Act was passed through the House by which the sum was considerably increased.

The question arose, as he had said, as to what effect the proposed re-adjustment would have upon Nova Scotia, and he brought the subject under the notice of the Privy Council. His right hon. friend the then Minister of Justice (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) gave it as his opinion that the Act of 1869, having expressly provided that the clause regarding which the doubt existed should be read as referring to the sum of $9,186,756.59, the effect of the resolution would be to adopt the decision of Parliament in 1869 as regarded the amount of increase to which Nova Scotia was entitled.

He might also add that the first payment to Nova Scotia under the Act of re-adjustment was made by the auditor during the absence of the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright), and without instructions from the Government, and that too, upon an entirely erroneous view of the intention of Parliament and the law upon the question. It had been based upon the old debt of eight million, increased only by the Act of last session, thus practically depriving Nova Scotia of some ten thousand dollars annually.

Previous to the late Government going out of office, their attention was never drawn to the question at all, and in fact it was only recently that any doubts had arisen in reference to it. He was anxious to make this statement because he had, on the authority of his colleagues, communicated the opinion of the late Minister of Justice to his friends in Nova Scotia as to the bearing of the Act at the time it was introduced.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT thought there could be no objection whatever to the correspondence his hon. friend desired being brought down. He believed that the hon. gentleman had stated the circumstances quite correctly; that the Auditor General did decline to pay anything more than the difference between the two sums, less the interest on the $1,186,000, in other words, some $20,000, or $30,000. He (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) believed that in the first instance when that point was brought before the Government they saw at once that injustice was being done to the Province, and amended the matter; but as to the other point there was considerable doubt as to what the spirit of the Act was. The amount involved was but a small one comparatively speaking—a little under $10,000.

It would be necessary, as a matter of course, for the Government to look very minutely into the construction of the Act. He believed he understood the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), to say that the late Minister of Justice had expressed a certain opinion with reference to its construction. Perhaps the discussion of the matter had better be deferred until the papers were before the House, and members could see the difference between the sums paid and the claim made by the Government of Nova Scotia.

Mr. KILLAM said he thought that, in justice to himself, as one of the members from Nova Scotia, he should state that when the Re-distribution Bill was introduced, he with some others expressed the opinion that the Act as it was read was not exactly fair to that Province. Before the resolutions were adopted he was told by the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) that he had the authority of the Council for stating that the Act would be construed as he had stated. He (Mr. Killam) said that in 1869 the sum of $77,000 should be paid to the Province. Who was to blame for the error which had occurred he did not know.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that three opinions appeared to be expressed with regard to the matter. One was that of the Auditor General, who made his payment on the assumption that the Act of 1869 should be disregarded altogether, and thought that the addition made by the Act of 1873 should be added to the $8,000,000. The Solicitor General of Nova Scotia objected to this, and the matter being submitted to him (Hon. Mr. Dorion), he gave it as his opinion, interpreting the Act as a Judge should, that great injustice was done to Nova Scotia.

He had, however, to look to the terms of the statute, and he gave the opinion that the increase by the Act of 1873 was to be added to the $8,000,000 irrespective of the $1,186,000 struck off by the Auditor. He (Hon. Mr. Dorion) might say that he could find no good reason for that except the precise terms of the Act which said that the amount should be calculated on the exact amount stated in the British North America Act, and the only sum mentioned therein was $8,000,000. It was evident that the Act of 1867 could not be amended by the Act of l869, for the obvious reason that one was an Imperial and the other was a Dominion Act. Of course, it was a mere legal question.

At the same time he was bound to say that he could see no reason why Nova Scotia had been deprived of a certain portion of the indemnity which the other Provinces had obtained, and the matter was now engaging the attention of the government with a view to seeing whether it could be amended. He could not, however, see how any other construction could be put upon the Act than that put upon it already. They had the declaration from a member of the late Government, that it was intended to give the interest on the two sums, and if that was the intention there would probably be no difficulty in passing a small Act stating what should be done.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said there was no doubt, in the first instance, that Nova Scotia and New Brunswick would be entitled to their fair proportion of the increase which the adjustment of the Provincial debt would confer upon Quebec and Ontario. He thought when the Government of the day had the authority of the late Administration as to the legal interpretation of the Act, and in view of the construction which the House had put upon it at the time it passed, they should not hesitate to make the additional payment at once, without any further legislation on the subject.

He was glad that his hon. friend the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) had promised to deal with the matter immediately, if legislation was considered necessary. After the explanations he had

heard from both sides of the House, he had no fear but that sure and speedy justice would be done to the Province of Nova Scotia in the premises.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he had no doubt the Minister of Justice had given the correct interpretation of the legal effect of the law for the adjustment of the debt of the Provinces. The statement as to the intentions of the late government and the manner in which the late Parliament had construed the resolutions should not be used as construing the existing statute, as was contended by his hon. friend from Halifax (Mr. Jones). That would be a very unsafe proposition for Parliament to assent to.

He had no doubt whatever the principle upon which the re-adjustment took place was that whatever was by the Confederation Act the debt which each Province was entitled to create was the basis upon which the division of the debt should be calculated. His hon. friend might be assured that the technical legal argument was against the case of Nova Scotia, but the principle upon which the re-distribution took place was in favour of that Province. He trusted, therefore there would be no hesitation in introducing a remedial measure upon the subject. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. CHURCH said he had no doubt the Minister of Justice had given the correct interpretation of the legal effect of the act in question and he thought that a change, so far as Nova Scotia was concerned, should be made. He boasted that there would be no hesitation on the part of the Government to introduce a remedial law in this report.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was quite true that the legislation of the Dominion Parliament could not repeal or amend an Imperial Act, but we could pass Acts amending the effect of it in the manner of the Act of 1869. With all due deference to the opinion of his hon. friend, he held that there was no necessity for an Act to establish the claim of Nova Scotia; but a doubt having been expressed, there was only one way of remedying it, namely, by passing a measure to that effect.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

PORT STANLEY HARBOUR

Mr. CASEY moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the conduct and management of the Port Stanley Harbour since 1859, inclusive, and to report thereon to the House; the Committee to consist of the following gentlemen, viz.:—Messrs. MacLennan, Norris, Irving, Harvey, Cockburn, Stuart, and Casey. He had a few days ago spoken to this motion and given his reasons for moving it, but at the desire of the leader of the Government he deferred moving it. Since then he had been given to understand that such information as could be given by the Department could be afforded without going to any unnecessary expense.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD called the attention of the Minister of Public Works to the effect that the motion made by the hon. member seemed to be taking this matter out of the hands of the Department.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said his right hon. friend was mistaken.

The work referred to was now out of the hands of the Department and was managed by a private corporation. There could be no objection to enquiring into the management of the work by that corporation. It was practically a public trust as it stood at present, but if the Government were in possession of the harbour, the remark of his right hon. friend would apply.

The hon. member who made the motion alleged that during the time it had been in the hands of the Corporation it had not been managed in the interests of the public. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had no reason to know that such was the case, except as informed by his honourable friend.

If the Government required to secure possession of it again, the Committee might be instrumental in developing some facts which would lead to that conclusion. There were several harbours on the lakes in possession of private corporations, and there was no reason why they should not be if they were managed without interfering with the general trade; but if they did, the Government must protect that trade.

At present the Great Western Railway Company were in possession of the harbour in question, as the successors of the London and Port Stanley Railway Company, and the Government proposed to give a small sum of money, to be expended upon the works, the Company expending an equal amount. A similar thing had been done last year with regard to the Collingwood harbour, which was under the management of the Northern Railway Company of Canada. The Government could not allow the Committee to proceed without any limit in such an enquiry as this, but the hon. gentleman who made the motion had been informed of this before, and had assented to a limitation.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the Department of Public Works checked the accounts of the harbour trusts, and the works were just as much under their management and control as if the powers of direction were directly vested in the Minister of Public Works.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Department had only the statutory right to interfere with the works. He did not think there was any special agreement to that effect.

After a few words from Mr. Casey,

The motion was carried.

* * *

CONSTITUTION OF THE SENATE

Mr. MILLS moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—That the present mode of constituting the Senate is inconsistent with the federal principle in our system of Government, makes the Senate alike independent of the people and the Crown, and is, in other material reports, defective; and that our Constitution ought to be amended so

as to confer upon each Province the power of appointing its own Senators, and to define the mode of their appointment.

In doing so he reverted to the fact that he had frequently brought this matter before the attention of the House and he bespoke for it on the present occasion a more favourable reception than it had received at the hands of former Parliaments.

There were certain provisions in the British North America Act, he said, relative to property and civil rights, which looked forward to the time when the Local Legislatures of the various Provinces would transfer their more important duties to the Parliament of Canada, some of which referred to the Administration of Justice and the Constitution of the Courts, which would enable the Government here to retain the appointment of Provincial Judges. There had been a construction put upon the Act in reference to the financial basis upon which the different Provinces entered the Union which seemed to be inconsistent with the federal features of our Government.

Then there was the constitution of an Upper Chamber by Crown appointment, which he did not think could be maintained if we were going to keep up our system of Government—that is, the system of throwing legislation on more general matters upon the Federal Parliament, and retaining for the action of the Local Legislatures matters which were of a peculiarly local nature. There were gentlemen in this House, he had no doubt, who thought that if we had a Legislative Union we would have a stronger and more efficient Government than we have now. Opinions of this character had been expressed by the right hon. gentleman who now led the Opposition, who had never sought to conceal the fact that he entertained such opinions. Whatever might be the right hon. gentleman's views upon the subject, however, or those of any other hon. gentleman, it was quite clear that legislative union lay behind this pale of practical politics. (*Hear, hear.*)

The reason why federation was preferable to legislative union, and had been adopted in the United States as well as in this country, was because the local interests of different States and Provinces were so diverse that it was impossible to carry on government on any other than the federal principle, giving each the right to deal with its own local affairs, and reserving matters of general interest for the general legislature. Legislative union was tried between Upper and Lower Canada. The Government was for a time in the hands of one party, and for a longer time in those of the other; but it was equally unsatisfactory in either case. It was found perfectly impossible to hold the Government responsible to the entire country, and thus what was considered maladministration in one Province was tolerated and allowed to pass unchallenged in another.

In fact, it was well illustrated that a Government can be held responsible for the administration of the affairs of the country only so far as you can interest the entire population in what is being done. If they had in this House the power to deal with local matters, very great mistakes and abuses would occur as regards the individual Provinces. The experience of Canada before the adoption of municipal institutions was in precisely the same direction, and he dared say there were many gentlemen in the House who remember the state of things which existed before that time. The great question of the relations subsisting between Church and State was then being agitated; but it was frequently found that an election turned more upon the question of whether the county should have assistance for building some local bridge than upon the crucial matter.

The same consideration which made it wise and prudent to establish municipal institutions and to withdraw legislation upon local subjects from the old Parliament of Canada also made it wise and prudent to withdraw provincial matters from the consideration of the Federal Parliament. The opinions prevailed in this country at the time of the civil war in America that the Federal Government there was weaker than it was desirable that a Government should be; but our own experience during the quarter of a century which preceded 1864 did not warrant the general conclusion arrived at by the same gentleman in consequence of the state of matters over the line at the time which he referred to. The extent of the power possessed by our Government previous to that time was the very element which tended to sever one Province from another, and placed one portion of the country in direct conflict with another.

If we looked at the current history of Europe, it would be seen that the strength of a Government did not depend upon the power it possessed. Austria and Hungary were for a time connected by a federal union, which was the cause of discontent, weakness, and civil war, and precisely the same thing might be said of the union which was established between Holland and Belgium by the Treaty of Vienna. Where there were geographical and political divisions there would be a corresponding diversity of interests among the people, and it would be impossible [*illegible*] Government strong by forcing upon it the considerations of questions upon which the people themselves were divided. On the other hand the effect of local self-government was to create a strong Federal Government, because of the very fact that questions upon which the community held antagonistic views were withdrawn from it.

In this country a system of representation by population had been adopted, the people being the units represented in this House. No such principle obtained in England, but on the other hand, it had been maintained by Sir James McIntosh and others that the Parliament of Great Britain was so constituted as to represent every interest of the Empire. He did not pretend to say whether our system was better than the British one or not, but we all knew that they were just now negotiating the adoption of the principle which we have here. It was true that in Britain there was less diversity of interests than in this country, arising principally from its different geographical position and extent. Whether our system was wise or unwise, however, it had been accepted and was supported by almost the entire population.

We had at the same time seen fit to recognize a second branch of the Legislature, and had introduced what was, to some extent, a federal element into it. There was another mode in which that body could have been constituted, one which would have recognized no political divisions in the country at all. He could easily understand the ground upon which any change in the mode of appointing the Senate would be opposed.

Of the three leading features which characterized the British Parliament the third was wanting in this country. We could control the finances and procure the dissolution of the House of Commons, but where was our power to control the Upper Chamber? That House was independent of both the people and the Crown. Such a feature was certainly inconsistent with our federal system, or indeed with any system of Parliamentary Government. If the Provinces were to be represented as Provinces, in his opinion it was absolutely necessary that the power of appointment should be vested in the Provinces as such. He did not say we should dispense with the Senate altogether, for he considered that in countries like this, where there may be great political excitement and antagonism, two Chambers might be virtually necessary.

He believed it to be necessary to change the constitution of the Senate in order to make it a really efficient second Chamber. He was of opinion that in order to do this it was necessary to give it a different origin from that of the House of Commons. His resolution did not necessarily involve this proposition. Some hon. gentlemen might be of opinion that the constitution of the Senate should be changed, though not exactly in the way indicated in the resolutions which he intended to propose in Committee.

One of the most important functions a second Chamber could serve in this Parliament, which possessed authority limited by written law, would be where it had an interest in defending the powers and rights of those legislative bodies not represented on the floor of this House, but part and parcel of the Government of the country. If elected by the people, he believed the Senate would be far more influential and able than it now was; but it would be subject to the same impulses and passions, and would not check encroachments on the part of this House upon the rights and powers of the Local Legislatures. It was true that the legislation of this House might be disallowed by the Courts, but if it legislated once in excess of its authority it could continue legislating in the same way. Important usages might grow up under it, and might not be decided upon in the Courts for a quarter of a century. Thus very serious difficulties would result.

No one could read over the early history of the Government at Washington without seeing the important functions which were discharged by the Senate in this particular, especially during the first twenty-five years of the Congress of the United States. There was no analogy between the House of Lords and the Senate here. The House of Lords represented a great power in the State, and owed its power and influence to the landed interest of England. The principle of any hereditary power which had an interest in the affair of the country was never likely to prevail here, and unless they constituted a second Chamber, which would represent somewhat differently the view of the people from the other body, they would not have one exercising any prominent influence of public affairs.

Assuming that Government honestly endeavoured to obtain the most efficient men to fill the position of Senators, where did they find them? In nine cases out of ten they took persons representing the urban population, and thus the rural population had a very small representation. He believed the preferable system was to have a second Chamber possessing an interest in representing the Provinces. It would be in consonance with popular feeling but would not be the result of the popular passion of the moment. The weakness of the proposal was, he was aware, that they might have Provincial parties which might send Senators to Parliament to represent the discontent which they might feel. In order to give some semblance of federal power, they wanted to give the Local Legislature the power of creating one branch of Government, so that they might have an interest in the maintenance of the authority of the central Government.

If the motion were carried, he intended to ask the Committee to rise and report progress, so that he might have his resolutions printed before the House was called on to consider them further.

The motion was then carried and the House went into Committee, **Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward)** in the chair.

Mr. MILLS said he proposed to submit to the Committee a series of resolutions on which he hoped an address might be founded. He believed the Senate was at present too large a body for legislative purposes. He thought the number should be reduced, each Province retaining its proportionate representation, but one half the present number. He did not propose that the present Senators should be disturbed, but that in the smaller Provinces a Senator should be elected every two years for a period of eight years, and in the four older Provinces that a number of them should be elected at one time.

Supposing that six Senators were to be elected at one time by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, he proposed to give to each member one vote, and no more, so that one-sixth or one-fourth of the House, as the case might be, should be able to elect a representative. He thought it was a fair field on which to try the principle of representation of minorities. The objection to giving the entire House the vote on the election of each Senator was that the party in the majority, if it were only a majority of one, would succeed in electing the entire representation. In the case of resignation or vacancies before the time for which the Senator was elected expired, it would be impossible to do otherwise than give the election to the entire representative body of the House.

He proposed that the Senators should be elected for a period of eight years, that the election of a half or a small proportion should take place in the first instance, and that subsequently elections should take place at regular intervals—if a half were the proportion decided on, every four years. He thought that looking at the age of the present Senators this scheme might be fairly carried out. He now asked that the Committee should rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Mr. BODWELL asked if his hon. friend intended to divide the Dominion into electoral districts, and to require that the representatives should be residents in the district which they represented.

Mr. MILLS replied in the negative.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the resolution on the notice paper only had been referred to this Committee, and he thought the Committee could not go into these further details proposed by the hon. member.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said it was perfectly competent for any member to propose any substitute expressing enlargement or modification of the resolution which had been submitted. They might reject the resolution, substitute some other, alter the terms, or, as was proposed by the member for Bothwell, neither amend nor alter, but fill up what was merely an outline.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said they must get the authority of the House to consider details as well as the general proposition.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON was surprised at the contention of the member for Kingston, particularly as it had never been the practice when the right hon. gentleman was leading the House to confine the Committee of the Whole to the exact terms of a resolution referred to it. The member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills) had now taken a very important step, having got the unanimous consent of the House, including the authors of the present Constitution of the country, to a proposition that the present constitution of the Senate was in the last degree defective, and ought to be changed. The House was not pledged to any particular scheme of the hon. gentleman, but it was pledged to the proposition that the present constitution of the Senate was defective.

He was glad that the hon. member for Kingston had been brought to acknowledge this much, and he had no doubt that when his hon. friend from Bothwell went into the details of his scheme he would receive the valuable assistance of the hon. member for Kingston. (*Hear, hear and laughter.*)

Mr. PALMER contended that he had not intended to assent to the principle of the resolution by avoiding opposition to its going into Committee. He thought it was a vicious principle to ask the Imperial Parliament to alter an Act passed with the concurrence of all the Provinces, without the consent of all those who were parties to the agreement.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he should not have spoken had it not been for the observations of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton). He was amazed to hear the conclusions the hon. gentleman had come to, that because no opposition was offered to the House going into Committee upon this resolution its principle was affirmed. He wishes distinctly to state that, so far as he was concerned, he ascribed the inaction of the House in regard to this resolution to the fact that it was looked upon by the House as one of the hobbies of the hon. gentleman from Bothwell (Mr. Mills). He thought hon. gentlemen did not desire to occupy the time of the House by discussing the question. The hon. member for Châteauguay said the House had pledged itself to this resolution, but he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) conceived that no such pledge had been made when the House was allowed to go into Committee on it. He protested against any such conclusion.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he did not hold that the House was pledged to the resolution, but he did hold that the House was pledged to the expression of opinion that the present constitution of the Senate was unsatisfactory.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said that on that side of the House they did not all believe in what the member for Châteauguay said, and a great many of them did not think he believed it himself.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he had intended to oppose the motion but he had been waiting for the fathers of the Constitution—(*laughter*)—to see if they were willing to kill their child. (*Renewed laughter.*) He was altogether opposed to the change proposed by the hon. member for Bothwell.

It being six o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The Committee resumed.

Mr. BODWELL said he looked upon the fact of the House going into Committee on this resolution as tantamount to an acceptance of the principle it contained. He hoped his hon. friend would see fit to reconsider the opinion he had expressed against dividing the Dominion into districts and requiring the members of the Senate to reside in the districts which they represented. A member of the House of Commons need not reside in his constituency, and he thought it desirable that one branch of the Legislature should be constituted on that principle, so as to give a sufficient representation to the rural population. He did not think his hon. Friend's objections to the election of Senators by a popular vote well founded. The Senate might be elected for twice the length of time for which the members of this House held their seats, and in that case the Upper House would not be subject to the same impulses as those which actuated this House.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) was glad this matter had been brought before the House, but thought there were some objections to the views enunciated by the member for Bothwell. He did not agree with him that the particular duty of the Senate was the protection of the Constitution from violation. He thought the Constitution was as safe in the hands of the House of Commons as in those of the Senate. He advocated a purely elective Senate. If the Commons was radical and progressive, so should the other body of the Legislature be. The history of the old Legislative Council showed that this principle was the best.

He complained of the present unequal territorial distribution of Senators, who could not now properly reflect the views of this country. He believed both Houses should have the same origin. He believed the people should be educated up to the full idea of self-government and should be considered worthy of electing both Houses. He should move an amendment, basing the Senate upon popular franchise, believing that they would do it as faithfully and as well as the people had done in electing the present House of Commons.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) entirely concurred in the remarks of the last speaker. Our Legislative Council in the past had never been looked up to with any amount of respect until it had been made elective. He quoted from the dispatches of Lord Elgin, one of the most Conservative of men, who recommended the elective principle as the best check upon the legislation of the

House of Assembly, and the best manner of giving it influence. He saw that to apply the elective principle was a necessity, and that it would smooth away the difficulties which might arise.

He condemned the taking away from the people at the time of Confederation their right to elect Senators. In principle this was wrong, and he should support the hon. member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross) in his amendment to make the House elective, but with a few alterations such as length of office, etc. It might be very well to have the Senate nominated by the Local Legislatures, but the advantages of such a system would be as nothing to the advantages of an elective chamber.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON was opposed to the proposal of the member for Bothwell. He complained that constant attempts were made to change the Constitution. The present system had not yet had a five years' trial, and now they wanted to change it. He did not say the Senate was perfection, but it was not the fault of the Constitution.

The fact was that we had not the elements for perfect legislation. It was said that we had in this country no less than 1,200 legislatures from the Dominion Parliament to the Municipal Councils. The people must certainly be very intelligent to be able to produce representatives fit to sit in all these legislatures. The hon. member for Middlesex West did not seem to think a moderator was necessary in the Legislature. He thought the two Houses should have the same source. He (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) entirely differed from that view. If both Chambers were to be elected by the same people, what was the use of a second Chamber at all? (*Hear, hear.*)

He proceeded to refer to and condemn the suggestion that the Government might appoint Senators to sufficient number to swamp those who oppose them in case of an adverse vote in the second Chamber. There were only three instances of this in English history, namely, in 1688, 1711 and 1832, each of which had had disastrous effects. He read a long extract on this subject.

If the Senate here were constituted in the same way as that of the United States, it would claim the same privileges, such as the right to amend money Bills. There was no real responsible government in the United States. The Senate there claimed the right to impeach the President, and in many instances was, in fact, the State itself.

The Constitution was the result of a compact between the Provinces, and if they made any alteration other difficulties would arise. It was the constitution of the Senate today; it might be the autonomy of the Provinces tomorrow. There had been some changes made already in the monetary arrangements with the Provinces, for instance. It was known that the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) had been in favour of a legislative union, and it had been rumoured that it had been contemplated to change the whole constitution into such a union.

When a radical change was necessary let them make it, but let them keep a good thing when they had it. There were now too few men for the Local Legislatures, and under this proposal they would be still further drained by sending their best men to the Senate. He was opposed to making the Upper House a gladiatorial amphitheatre in which to fight over again the battles fought, sometimes fiercely, in this House. The Senate of the United States had not prevented the struggle between the central body and the State legislatures. The simplest system was the best when established on a sound basis.

If they wanted to have a moderating body, let them not have it a simple reflux of the popular body. The member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross) had been more rational. He had said, we are radical here, let us be radical there. Let us be all Radicals. He would ask, in that case, if one Radical could do the work, why they should have two? (*Laughter and cheers.*)

Mr. BROUSE was dissatisfied at the manner in which the counties on the St. Lawrence had been passed over in recent vacancies. He believed most of the discontent had arisen from the manner in which the Senators were nominated. He believed in the elective system but thought it was not well to tinker with the Constitution.

Mr. CHISHOLM said he would vote for the measure if the people were allowed to elect Senators, and the Provinces were divided into proper senatorial districts. He did not wish to attack the Government for recent appointments, but he believed the system faulty which gave any Government power to leave such an important place as Hamilton without any representation. He did not blame them for taking a man from Quebec Province to fill an Ontario vacancy. He blamed a system which permitted such a thing to be done.

He had voted against a similar motion, but should support it if it changed in the direction indicated by the member for West Middlesex.

Mr. PATERSON thought changes in the Constitution should be approached with great caution. He considered, however, that the constitution of the Senate was contrary to the spirit of our institutions. The people of this country were strong in the determination that all power must rest in the people themselves. He should support the proposal to be made by the member for Middlesex West.

Mr. GORDON supported the principle of an elective Senate and said that the great fault of Mr. George Brown's life had been that he had always opposed the principle of an elective Senate, but the fact was that he had been in bad company.

He said if a fault existed, as admitted by the member for Quebec Centre, let them remove it before it became venerable. He was in favour of the proposal of the member for Middlesex West. The people of Canada were neither aristocratic nor Republican, and it would be much safer to leave the appointment to the people at large than to the Local Legislatures, where cabals would certainly arise in consequence. There was now before them an instance of evil of this system in the contest going on for the vacant senatorship in Massachusetts. He hoped an agreement would be come to between the member for Welland and the member for Middlesex.

Mr. DYMOND said it had occurred to him that there was a primary question to be considered before they decided to adopt

either of the proposals before the House, namely, the utility of second Chambers in any case.

In Ontario, the absence of the Upper Chamber had been found to be better than its presence. He believed his Liberal friends in Quebec were not particularly enamoured of their Legislative Council. He had heard of some Acts of the Upper Houses of the Maritime Provinces which were not arguments for their continuance, and of all the absurdities of the Manitoba Act the creation of the little Upper House of seven members to ape the British House of Lords was the greatest.

What was the composition of the British House of Lords? First, there were the hereditary titled land owners of ancient lineage and great wealth; then there were men of great experience at the bar; then the great generals of the time; and then certain men who, when wealthy enough, Conservative enough, and safe enough, were elevated from the desk of the exchange to a seat among the Peers of the realm; and then, too, there were the Bishops, of whom he would say nothing, for if any changes were made in the constitution of that august body they would certainly go first.

But even this venerable institution, so magnificent in its component parts, so historic in its character, was upon its trial. What did they want a Senate in Canada for? He believed it was generally said to control the vagaries of the people's representatives, who were supposed to be young and inexperienced, in fact, diamonds in the rough. (*Laughter.*) The greatest blunders of the past seven years were all sanctioned by the Senate: the Intercolonial Railway Act in 1867-1868; the Nova Scotia Subsidy Bill in 1869; the Manitoba Act in 1870; the British Columbia resolutions in 1871; and the Canadian Pacific Railway Bill in 1872. Finally, last year the Senate were asked to appoint a Committee to enquire in the sale of the Pacific Railway Charters, but, refusing to grant it, wrote their own final condemnation.

He had no doubt the present Government would not follow the ill example of their predecessors in the mode of appointing Senators, but he thought it would be charitable and kind to allow the venerable gentleman who composed the Senate of Canada to gain that repose which would be given them, either by the abolition of the Upper Chamber, or by the adoption of either the plan advocated by the member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills), or that of the member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross). (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. MILLS rose to reply to some of the objections advanced to his proposal. He contended that a purely elective Senate would be actuated by the same views and impulses as this House and would really be of no voice whatever as a court of review. A Senate elected by the local legislatures, while having the same popular origin as this House, would not have exactly the same impulses, and would be elected with more care and deliberation than those elected immediately by the people. If they created a Second Chamber directly representing the people they would create one that would be in many respects a rival of this House. He moved that the Committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again. —Carried.

The Committee rose accordingly, and was given leave to sit again on Monday.

* * *

QUEBEC CULLING OFFICE

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the state of the Quebec office for culling and measuring wood, and to recommend, with a view to efficiency and economy, such changes in the regulations of the staff in and out of the office as may be required by the existing circumstances, and dimensions of Quebec trade.

He said that there were particulars in connection with this appointment which required the attention of the Government. This office affected one particular trade—the lumber trade. He desired to ensure by moving for this Committee that they might have the timber making through Quebec properly measured. Every satisfaction was given by the present officers. It was necessary that these officers should receive sufficient to keep them properly all year round, and instead of fifty being employed, twenty persons could do the work.

He denounced the rotation system, and maintained that by this means precedence was frequently given to inefficient persons. It was not for him then to state how the persons who it was desirable to dismiss should be remunerated, but dismissed they should be.

He moved that a Select Committee, composed of Messrs. Fournier, Thibaudeau, White (Renfrew North), Currier, Cockburn, Pelletier, Tremblay, Cook and McDougall (Renfrew South), be appointed to enquire into the state of the Quebec office for culling and measuring timber.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said he had no objection to the first part of the motion.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) expressed himself willing to withdraw that portion of the motion which did not find favour with the Government.

Mr. TREMBLAY said some fifteen men did the greater part of the work, and many of those engaged in the work were an injury to the trade, making inaccurate reports and measurements, either through ignorance or intentionally. He trusted the Government would at once investigate the matter, and see that none but competent men were engaged. He thought that the cullers of other parts besides Quebec required looking after.

Mr. CIMON said that the hon. member for Charlevoix was continually making unfounded charges against officials in his constituency. He did not object to the investigation, but he did to the gratuitous charges of the hon. gentleman who spoke last.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) said the amount cullers made was about $470 a year, but they would make much more if the number were reduced. He considered that considerably less than twenty men could do the work of this Department. He objected to the Government paying sufficient to keep the cullers all the year round. He endorsed the statement that there were many incompetent men engaged in this work, and suggested that an independent board

of surveyors should be constituted to settle all matters in dispute regarding the measurement of lumber. Many of the supervisors of the cullers' staff were utterly unable to measure timber. He supported the motion.

Mr. CURRIER was glad this Committee had been appointed. The great fault existed with the rotation system, and he suggested the abolition of that system, which he believed would do away with existing evils. Twelve or fourteen cullers could do the whole work, and he hoped the result of the appointment of this committee would be that the Government would enquire into this matter and remedy the evils complained of.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said everyone had got his own experience on the subject, but he thought it would be a very difficult matter to get a perfect system—one that would be adapted equally to the buyer and seller. Experience would show where the difficulty lay. By the present system, of course, if a merchant wanted a particular culler he must wait his time, while a poor man, perhaps, who was not able to wait, had to have his timber measured by the culler then on rotation, whether he was competent or not. He thought, however, it would be rather a hard case, unless you gave them a pension, to turn such a number off who perhaps know no other trade.

He remembered when he was in France going to the Marine Department and trying to induce them to purchase Canadian timber for their ships, but the answer he got was that the timber was not good, that the standard of our goods in Liverpool was a false standard, with wood marked A-1 upon it being only of second quality.

It was important for the purchaser, as well as the buyer, in Quebec and for the country at large that the standard should be really good, and, if the suggestion of a school for these men, apprenticing them to their business and with a severe examination for efficiency could be adopted, he for one would give it his hearty approval.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said that the Government would give full attention to the matter alluded to in the resolution. It was generally agreed that there were too many cullers. The cullers themselves admitted that the complaint was justly made that every merchant could get just the culler he wanted. In many cases this was a hardship.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that this office was as much a part of the Inland Revenue Department as the officer of that Department held at headquarters, and here was a private member of the House proposing a Committee to enquire into the state of affairs in connection with it. This hon. member would probably be Chairman of the Committee, and as he had appointed the Committee, the hon. gentleman at the head of the Department, who was one of the members of it, would probably be outvoted. He thought this rather an unusual mode of proceeding. It would seem as though it was the policy of the Government to delegate everything to Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that of course, the hon. gentleman would have something to complain of. It was quite natural that he should complain, and the Government expected it; but he should be more happy in choosing his subject.

He was quite mistaken with regard to the Inland Revenue Department. There was an incidental connection between the office alluded to in the motion and the Inland Revenue Department, but no other. The office was taken charge of by the Inland Revenue Department, but against his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) will; he had more than once protested against the late Government voting money to make up deficiencies in it. When this notice was put on the paper, he made up his mind that the subject was a fair one for enquiry into by this House, and thought that if an arrangement could be made to relieve the Government entirely of the management of the office it would be a good thing. The Government would assume no responsibility with regard to the enquiry, but when the report of the Committee was submitted to the House they would act on it or not, as they saw fit.

The right hon. gentleman had said that the Government were delegating all their work to Committees. What work had they delegated to any committee? He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had on every occasion on which a committee threatened to interfere with the administrative functions of the Government interposed to amend the proposal that was made, so that it would not have that effect. He remembered a time, however, when scarcely a measure of the hon. gentlemen opposite was not sent to a Committee. This government did not intend to abrogate its functions, nor did it intend to offer no response to the criticisms of hon. gentlemen opposite.

The hon. member for Kingston once complained that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) when on that side of the House never did anything but grumble. The hon. gentleman had made a good beginning at that himself, but he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) did not think his grumbling would have much effect.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that the hon. gentleman had referred to the fact that the late Government sent to Committees almost every measure it brought in. He hoped the hon. gentleman would except him (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) for one, as there was scarcely a measure he introduced which was sent to a Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I beg Mr. Speaker to retract as far as the hon. gentleman is concerned. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) said that when the Government of the right hon. gentleman existed, the gentleman who was then in charge of the Inland Revenue Department said that this matter would at once be attended to; that he believed the changes he (Mr. McDougall) demanded were required. There was therefore one member of that Government who did not attend to his duty in the matter.

He (Mr. McDougall) fully agreed with the Premier that the Government should not be called upon to supplement the revenue of the cullers in any way. He believed that the lumbermen of the country did not want any portion of the community to assist them in anything which should properly devolve upon themselves, but he thought that the Government of the country should not saddle them with any expense which they were not entitled to bear.

Seeing that there was an objection to placing on the Committee a member of the Government whose name was proposed merely for the purpose of giving him a controlling influence in the investigation, the hon. member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) would probably allow his name to be substituted.

Mr. Fournier's name was replaced by Hon. Mr. Cauchon's, and the motion was then passed.

* * *

MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSION

Mr. RYAN, in moving for the correspondence between the Government and Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, with copies of letters of dismissal of Messrs. Delisle, Workman, Hudon and Ryan from the said Commission, said he hoped that the harbour would be removed from its present hands into some other, as he did not think it right that a public harbour should be in the hands of a few private individuals. A railway had lately been made to the harbour, to which the town of Whitby had contributed some $60,000, believing at the time that the harbour would be built up and repaired. Instead of that the harbour had not only not been built up, but the highest charges had been made on the produce, and the consequence was that a great deal of trade was diverted to other channels. He hoped the motion would commend itself to the good will of the House as being beneficial to a large section of the community.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that unless some evidence was given to the Government that the power entrusted to the Commissioner had been abused, he did not think they could proceed in the manner the hon. member suggested.

The motion carried.

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WHITBY HARBOUR

Mr. GORDON moved for a return of the Orders in Council selling or leasing Whitby Harbour to the present Company; also, for a statement of all sums paid to the Government by the said Harbour Company from the date of the said Order in Council to the present time on account of the purchase or lease of the said harbour; also, for a statement of the annual revenue and expenditure from and upon the said harbour throughout the occupancy of the said Company; also, for all correspondence on the subject, together with the names of those persons forming the said Company.

He said that Whitby harbour was the only harbour of refuge between Toronto and Kingston, and it was a very safe one. In the year 1845 or 1846 it was made a very good harbour by the Government, who erected a breakwater and dredged it out. It remained in the hands of the Government until 1864, when it was turned over to the present Company for the sum of $35,450, the Government reserving the right to take the harbour back if certain conditions were not complied with, one of which was that the Company should keep the harbour in good repair.

At that day there was no railway, but since then one had been built, and a large quantity of lumber came down by it, but the Company did not provide for storing it. They neglected, also, to provide sufficient storage for the grain grown in the country, which was a large grain-growing district. He maintained that the policy followed by the Company had been very inimical to the interests of the town of Whitby. That town had given a liberal grant in aid of the railway, with the expectation that the railway would aid to build up the harbour, and with the improvement of the harbour the town would enjoy more prosperity. The Company had charged such high tolls, however, that large quantities of produce had in consequence found other outlets.

He thought the Government should take the harbour out of the hands of the present Company, but he did not wish any injustice to be done to them. He proposed that the Company should get the amount they paid for it and eight per cent on their capital since that time. He hoped the harbour would pass into the hands of the people of the town of Whitby.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had no objection to the motion but he would just say that the Company were at present about enlarging these works considerably, and as the Government had no intention of resuming possession of the harbour, it would not be well to throw doubt on their present title. The Company had applied to the Government very lately for power to extend their piers, and the Government said there would be no impediment to their doing so, as far as they were concerned.

The motion was then carried.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that he understood it was the purpose of the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) to open his budget tomorrow afternoon, and in order to enable him to do so it was absolutely necessary that he should advance a stage tonight. The question was whether the House had not better adjourn now, as the hour was getting late, or whether they had better proceed to Government orders, so that his hon. friend might take the preliminary stage, and then be prepared to go into Committee of Ways and Means tomorrow. As the Budget debate would be a very heavy one, he suggested that the Government orders should be called.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was the intention of his hon. friend to make his financial statement tomorrow, and if the House would agree to it now he would move that the Government orders would be called with a view to enabling his hon. friend to make his motion.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD remarked that the Government had already taken Thursday.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that it was probable that after the Budget nearly the whole time of the House would be at the disposal of private members.

After some further conversation,

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that there was a motion of his for an Address asking for a return of the statements of revenue of the first nine months of the years 1872, 1873 and 1874. As this was a motion made in view of the budget speech, and as it had been assented to by the House, and as the information asked for would be of value to hon. gentlemen in discussing the financial statement, he thought there would be no opposition to its passage.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the statement would be brought down as soon as possible.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL then moved his resolution.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that perhaps the hon. gentleman would be content with a statement for the first eight months, which could be got without trouble, but there might be some difficulty in getting the statements for this month.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that the motion might be left as it was, and the hon. gentleman could bring down the information for the other month when he had it ready.

Mr. BOWELL said before the Government orders were called he thought it important that the question of privilege on the Riel affair he had to bring up should be disposed of. In view of the budget speech, and knowing the interest felt in the country with regard to the financial statement, he did not wish to make his motion tomorrow. He desired to understand from the Premier if he would not be able to bring it up on Thursday, that being a Government day.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: There is Wednesday for private members.

Mr. BOWELL said he would bring it up on Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Of course.

The House then went into Committee of Supply.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that this House do tomorrow go into Committee of Ways and Means to vote a supply to Her Majesty.

The motion was carried, and the Committee rose and reported.

The House adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

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NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. PRÉVOST—On Wednesday next—That the general rules of the Election Court for the Montreal Division laid before this House on the 7th April inst., and the general rules of the Election Court for the Province of New Brunswick laid before this House on the 9th of the same month, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, to the end that the same may be examined and considered and a report thereon be made to this House.

Mr. FARROW—On Wednesday—Address for all correspondence between the Government and Thomas Holmes, Returning Officer for the North riding of Huron, relating to the last election in that riding for a member to serve in the House of Commons.

Mr. LANDERKIN—Enquiry of the Ministry. Do the Government intend reducing the percentage now charged on Post Office money orders?

Mr. McCALLUM—On Thursday next—Copies of all correspondence, if any, between the Government and the engineer or engineers in charge of the Welland Canal, as to the amount of damages sustained by the Land Office and property holders along the Grand River, in the counties of Haldimand and Monck; also copies of all reports, if any, as to the valuation and payment of said damages caused by holding the water on the said river much higher than usual for the use of the said canal.

Mr. PALMER—Enquiry of the Ministry whether or not it is the intention of the Government to sell or lease any, and what, portion of the Government Railway in the Maritime Provinces, and, if so, whether it is their intention to offer the same at public competition.

Mr. De COSMOS—On Thursday next—Address for the report of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs of British Columbia for 1873 and copies of all papers, including a statement of expenditure and correspondence connected with the Indian affairs of the said Province for 1873; and also a return showing who recommended the appointment of Mr. Lenihan to the office of Assistant Indian Commissioner in the said Province, and why and when he was appointed; and whether he had had any experience in the management of Indian affairs before his appointment; and what salary and allowances have been granted him.

Mr. McCALLUM—On Wednesday next—Enquiry of the Ministry whether it is the intention of the Government to establish a police force on the line of the new works on the Welland Canal.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD—On Wednesday next—Address for a copy of an Act passed by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario at its last session, entitled An Act to amend the law respecting Escheats and Forfeitures, together with all orders in Council, and all correspondence between the Governments of Canada and Ontario as to the said Act, or as to the matters affected by the said Act.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South)—On Wednesday—Address for copies of all correspondence between Life Insurance Companies doing business in Canada and the Government; and of all representations from such Companies or others to the Government for the passage of an Act authorizing the appointment of an Inspector of Insurance Companies, and for such appointment.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South)—On Wednesday next—That on Thursday next this House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to provide for the inspection of salt manufactured in Canada, and for the appointment of Salt Inspectors."

Mr. MOSS—On Wednesday—Bill to make further provisions for the management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. RYAN—Address for copies of all appointments made since lst of January 1874, to the present date, to the Custom House at Montreal with the names and previous occupations of the parties appointed, and the salaries of each; with copies of any reports or

recommendations there may be from the Collector respecting such appointments.

Mr. PATERSON—On Wednesday next—Enquiry whether it is the intention of the Government to provide for an official report of the debates and proceedings of this House.

Mr. TROW—Enquiry of the Ministry whether it is the intention of the Government during the session to abolish the imposition of the duty on promissory notes, drafts, and bills of exchange.

Mr. SCATCHERD—On Tuesday next—That the report of the select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections on the petition of Stanislaus Francis Perry, Esq. be adopted.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, April 14, 1874

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions praying for a prohibitory liquor law were presented. Several petitions were also presented in favour of protection to native manufacturers.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. MILLS presented the first report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills, recommending the extension of the time for the reception of petitions in favour of Private Bills to two weeks.

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REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the second report of the Joint Committee on Printing, which recommended the advertising for new tenders for binding, printing, and printing paper, the same to be handed in not later than 11th May next, notwithstanding that tenders were received for the same purpose at a late period last year.

On the motion of **Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)** the report of the Joint Committee on Printing was adopted.

Mr. RYMAL presented the second report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

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PRIVATE BILLS

On the motion of **Mr. MILLS** the time for receiving petitions for and reports on Private Bills was extended a fortnight.

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REPORT ADOPTED

On the motion of **Mr. SCATCHERD** the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections relating to Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry was received and adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) introduced a Bill to incorporate the Maritime Insurance Company.

Mr. OLIVER to incorporate the Ingersoll Board of Trade.

Mr. BOYER introduced a Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Royal Canadian Insurance Company.

Mr. JETTÉ introduced a Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Banque d'Hochelaga; also to authorize Joseph Meunier to build a toll bridge over the River L'Assomption.

Mr. SCATCHERD introduced a Bill to incorporate Lamb's Water-Proof Gum Manufacturing Company.

Mr. HALL introduced a Bill to incorporate the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE drew the hon. gentleman's attention to the fact that the Bill embraced works belonging to the Government, and while it might go to a second reading, it was quite impossible it could go further in the present shape. It must be altered very materially, and he questioned if, after the alterations had been made, it would be of much use to the hon. gentleman.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) introduced a bill to incorporate the Hawkesbury and Lochiel Junction Railway Company.

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the following additions be made to the Standing Committee hereinafter mentioned:—Messrs. Rouleau, Harper, and Cameron (Ontario South), to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce; Messrs. Hurteau and Gill and the Hon. Malcolm Cameron, to the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines; and Messrs. Barthe and Trow, to the Committee on Immigration and Colonization.—Carried.

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LOUIS RIEL

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) moved that Attorney General Clarke be recalled to the bar of the House tomorrow, at 3 o'clock, to answer questions touching the indictment of Louis Riel before the Grand Jury at Winnipeg.

Mr. MASSON said he consented to second the hon. gentleman's motion, not knowing for what purpose it was made, but he desired that the hon. gentleman should explain.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) said he wished Mr. Clarke to place the exact position of the case before the House, as it now stood in Manitoba. It had been taken into a*vizandum* by the Judge to consider whether he had jurisdiction in the matter, and if he gave an adverse decision, of course that would quash the indictment and the sentence of outlawry which made Riel a fugitive from justice.

Mr. BOWELL said that he had desired to have this matter explained, but was prevented from doing so. Attorney General Clarke was now beyond the jurisdiction of this House, having gone south for the benefit of his health, and it was altogether impossible for him to present himself this session. He contended that Louis Riel, as he had been here, knew the course which had been pursued, and was perfectly able to have appeared when called upon and explained his own case. It seems that the course now pursued was to impede matters.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE hoped the hon. member for Marquette would withdraw his motion, as it was perfectly plain from the argument of the hon. member of Hastings North that Riel should have been here or in Manitoba, his absence being proof of the fact that he was evading justice. He trusted the matter would be allowed to drop, and that no attempt would be made to retard matters.

The motion was withdrawn.

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NOVA SCOTIA BETTER TERMS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT presented the return giving importations during the first month of 1872, 1873 and 1874 asked for by the **Hon. Mr. MITCHELL** yesterday.

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DISCOURTESY TO MEMBERS

Mr. DOMVILLE called attention to the fact of the telegraph wires having been taken hold of by the Government during the morning, without giving the usual notice. It might be owing to want of experience of the Hon. Finance Minister, but, whether or not, he considered it an act of discourtesy to the members.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON considered it a wholesome course to have pursued, and one which had as its precedent the course pursued by previous finance ministers, especially by Sir A.T. Galt. Whether this was done at one, two, or three o'clock mattered very little. If gentlemen desired to have messages forwarded to their families he had no doubt they could have been forwarded.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that the seizing of the wires in this manner had never been previously resorted to. It had only been done as soon as the Finance Minister opened his Budget; but the moment the wires were taken possession of, the hold on them must be absolute, as messages which purported to be private, but really had reference to changes in the tariff, might be forwarded and thwart the object which the Government had in view in taking possession of the wires.

After some remarks from Hon. Mr. Mackenzie,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he had intended no discourtesy, and had followed out what he had been informed by the officials usually charged with the task had been the ordinary course pursued. He had, moreover, to close the wires on account of some of the statements being in the hands of the printer, through whom information might otherwise have leaked out.

THE BUDGET

The House went into Committee of Ways and Means, **Mr. SCATCHERD** in the chair.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, before proceeding to discuss the minor details of the budget, I desire to say a word or two as to the position in which the Government finds itself placed on this occasion. Sir, we have not only a new Government meeting a new House, but, as is well known, a large portion of the Government is composed of gentlemen who, like myself, have had no special official experience, and we find ourselves at the very commencement of our career confronted with difficulties of no small magnitude, of which I will take leave to say that the financial difficulties are not the least prominent or the least embarrassing. (*Hear, hear.*) Now, Sir, there is this peculiarity about the position of the government. As everyone knows, the policy of our predecessors, particularly on financial questions, was one to which every member of this Government, without exception, so far as my recollection serves me, was resolutely and determinedly opposed. (*Hear, hear.*)

Briefly our general position is something of this nature. We find that the resources of the Dominion are amply adequate for all the ordinary legitimate calls which can be made upon it; but we find also that we have been committed to a great series of projects, of which, whether they are well or ill conceived, I shall only say at present that they are of a nature to tax the resources of this country to the utmost. (*Hear, hear.*) The Government are quite prepared to assume responsibility to the fullest extent for any act of their own; but they are not disposed to assume, nor will they assume, nor will their supporters or the country at large expect them to assume, any responsibility for acts of their predecessors against which they protested to the utmost, which they opposed at every stage from their inception onward, and for the results of which they have now to provide. For the measures we may have to bring down for the purposes of repairing these previous errors (if errors they are), we are undoubtedly responsible; but I repeat that for the measures themselves, and for the results of those measures, with which the House is now, I may say for the first time, fairly confronted—for these measures, I say, we admit no responsibility. (*Hear, hear.*)

I do not, however, wish it to be at all understood that the Government, while they contend that they are not morally responsible for the results of these measures, thereby mean to imply that they are not bound to carry out to the utmost any pledge made by their predecessors. It is our desire, Sir, to fully respect those pledges; but I must put one reservation on this statement, and that is that respecting pledges made by others, we must not ourselves be expected to make promises which we do not see our way to perform. All we can do we will do, but we will not imperil the whole future of this Dominion. We will be content to go as far in those matters as the finances of the country will justify, but, we must not be asked to go further. (*Hear, hear.*)

One word more. The House is aware only four or five months have elapsed since the present Government took office, and I may add, that of these four or five months, we have scarcely been able to give at the outside more than two months to the special measures

with which we found ourselves charged, owing to the double election to which most of us were subjected. Therefore, it is not possible that on minor points I should be able to speak as confidently as I would hope to have done, had a few weeks more been placed at my disposal. It is obvious that the circumstances at which I have just glanced will impose on us the duty, on this occasion, of reviewing the position of the country a little more minutely than we have been in the habit of doing. We must understand distinctly, and the public at large must also understand, not only what is the present financial condition of the country, but also something of the present resources of the country, and of the engagements we have incurred, and then consider how we can best and most ideally meet them.

I must admit that there is very considerable difficulty in our way in doing this. Whatever the cause may be, there is no doubt the statistics of Canada are not so complete and perfect as we would desire. There are many things we ought to know, of which these statistics do not inform us; therefore any calculation which I may venture upon this occasion, for which I have not official statistics, I desire to be regarded as approximate only, though I venture to think they will be found to be not far from being substantially correct. I am not able to make pretension in all cases to minute accuracy, but still there are certain broad facts, well understood and well established, which will suffice to lead us to tolerably correct conclusions, both as to our general resources, and as to the nature if not the full extent of the various engagements with which we have to grapple.

Now, sir, I propose, in the first place, to review the financial position of this country during the year which terminated on 30th June last. I have caused to be prepared, for the convenience of the Committee, a statement of the several yearly receipts and expenditures since we entered upon Confederation. I may remark of this statement that it does not include the receipts or expenditure for Prince Edward Island, with the exception of the sum of $100,000, which was included in the supplementary estimates for the purpose of defraying the cost of organization, so called.

I am not going to delay the Committee very long with respect to the year 1872-1873. There is not a great deal in respect to that year to call for comments at this moment, except it be this—I am afraid 1872-1873 will be known for some time to come as the last year of plenty—I was going to say of needless plenty. If the Committee look at the comparative statement of receipts and expenditure, they will see that while the receipts for 1872-1873 were $20,813,469, the expenditure for the same year was $19,174,647, leaving a net surplus of something over $1,660,000—a very satisfactory result it must be admitted on that year's proceedings. Moreover, although the apparent increase in the receipts of 1872-1873 was not much in excess of those of 1871-1872, it is fair to state that owing to the reduction on the tea duties the real increase was more than the apparent increase, and the progress of the country was still substantially increasing during that period.

There were, indeed, one or two facts which might reasonably have attracted more attention than they did. If hon. gentlemen will cast their eyes down the column of expenditure they will see there has been an enormous increase in the charges for collection of revenue on public works, while the receipts, as they will find by the other side of the statement, have not been nearly relatively so great. They will see, also, that public works chargeable to income have almost exactly doubled, as compared with 1871-1872, and further, that the proportionate increase in our expenditure was greater than the increase in the revenue, even taking into account the loss on the tea duties, to which I have alluded. Nevertheless, up to the 30th June, 1873, we still continued, as I have said, in the possession of a considerable surplus; but after that date the policy of the late Government began to come into play.

If the Committee will glance at the estimates for 1873-1874, which, be it remembered, were made without reference to the Island of Prince Edward, they will see that the excess of the previous year was turned into a deficit of over $846,000; and if the Committee will go back a little further, to the year 1869-1870, they will see that during these four years, while an enormous increase had taken place in the revenue—an increase really much larger than it appears to be in the statement, as I shall presently show—not only had the expenditure gone on increasing in like proportion, but according to the estimates to which I have alluded, provision had to be made for a large deficit.

In other words, the actual results of the policy of the Government, begun in the year 1869-1870, and carried on, according to their own showing—because the figures are not mine; they were brought down by my predecessor—in four years converted a surplus of four million dollars into a deficit of nearly one million. And this I shall show is actually a much more favourable statement for those gentlemen than the real state of the case would warrant, without mentioning that this occurred in the face of a steadily increasing revenue. (*Hear, hear.*) I do not know that in the whole course of my reading—not very extensive, perhaps—I say I do not know of an instance in which a Government, having had such a windfall of prosperity, succeeded, in four years, in turning a surplus of four million into a deficit of one million in the face of a progressive revenue—(*Hear, hear*)—and I must also add that that increase meant a great deal more than the Committee might readily suppose from the bare figures.

If the Committee will look at the expenditure for the year 1869-1870, they will see that deducting what is known as the fixed charges—that is to say, the interest on the debt with the contingent charges, the subsidies and the charges pertaining to the collection of revenue—it was rather under four millions of dollars. Consequently, the increase of income which took place between 1869-1870 and 1870-1871 represented more than double the then total expenditure for ordinary purposes, and nearly double the actual net revenue, or in short by the marvellous expansion of trade which then occurred, they had the benefit of a bonus of five million a year, not to speak of further large additions. I desire to add, Sir, in addition to this, that they contracted engagements which, if pushed to the legitimate legal limit, would involve us in a debt of nearly two hundred million dollars, all told.

That is to say that these gentlemen, besides more than doubling our usual ordinary expenditure—apart from fixed charges—had made provision for trebling the national debt of Canada. (*Hear,*

hear.) I must say that what our honourable predecessors did they did quickly. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) I will add this, that their only rivals were themselves, for never in the history of Canada, except when they were in power—never except about twenty years ago, when certain of those hon. gentlemen were concerned in a similar process, were anything like such large results obtained in so short a time. (*Cheers.*)

Now, Sir, there is one consolation, and so far as I know, it is the only one—that excessive folly is sometimes its best cure. It is safer to deal with those enormous errors than ones of a more moderate character, because I think every reasonable man must see that there are some of these engagements which it is morally and physically impossible for us to fulfil, at all events under the conditions stated. (*Hear, hear.*) I do not wish it to be understood that I condemn all their expenditure or all the projects to which they committed the country. Far from it, but still, I say that the expenditure was in many respects excessive and needlessly exaggerated.

The legislation of last session added over one and a half million of dollars to the fixed charges of this country, in full view of the fact that we were pledged to one of the most gigantic schemes any country ever undertook, in proportion to its resources, and I say it was most reprehensible to allow of charges being incurred which practically involved a disregard of sacred treaty obligations—but in other particulars, I admit that a large portion of their expenditure was unavoidable, and that a large portion was expedient. It is not on the score of the expenditure itself, as much as because they undertook this expenditure, while at the same time they committed the country to obligations which none of us see our way to redeem, that I think they should be held censurable. (*Hear, hear.*) It must be remembered that these additions to our fixed charges were almost all made when it was known that the project for the construction of the Pacific Railway by a Company had failed, and, therefore, that we were ourselves responsible under the terms of the treaty to complete the work. (*Hear, hear.*)

I now desire to state briefly what our engagements are. We have still on hand the Intercolonial Railway, for which I see my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) estimates three millions and a half dollars will be required, all told. This, as we know, is a first charge upon us, which must be met prior to any other obligation. We have, in addition to this, taken upon ourselves the task of effecting a large number of improvements on our canals, as well as other works, for which purposes a further sum of nearly twenty-five millions of dollars estimated to be likely to be required in addition to the estimates of 1874-1875. This estimate corresponds with tolerable exactness with the estimate of Mr. Tilley (Minister of Finance, February-November 1873), who stated it would require thirty millions of dollars to discharge these obligations.

These are of themselves serious charges, but while I am bound to say this, I desire to say that a portion, at any rate, of these canals may fairly be looked upon as a first charge, because so far as my recollection goes it was distinctly understood, at the period Confederation was entered upon, that a part of these canal expenditures should be incurred for the benefit of the Western Peninsula, at least I think that was the understanding, as stated by the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) and by the Hon. Mr. Brown; and unless I am deceived, it was embodied in and made a part of the Quebec resolutions; but mighty and important as these enterprises may be, they sink into insignificance compared with the project to construct a railway three thousand miles in length through a country—a great part of it wilderness—of which we cannot say that we have effectually surveyed one-tenth part. Notwithstanding, the legal obligation is that we should, within seven years from this date, secure the completion of this gigantic undertaking. Now, as I have said, the position of the Government in this matter is undoubtedly one of great gravity. The strict legal obligation is that we construct a railway nearly three thousand miles long across a country almost totally unknown and unsurveyed and we are bound to this within a period of seven years.

If it were possible for us, if there were any possible chance for us to fulfil this great obligation in that time, I say frankly it would be our duty to do so at any sacrifice. But I must also say that I believe, under the circumstances, it is utterly impossible that this could be done within the time and in the way specified, although I hope that we may succeed in advancing some scheme hereafter which may in great part effect what is desired. I admit also that it is only through stern necessity that the Government are justified in taking this position. But, I say that if the House will consider what the nature of the burden is, there will scarcely be a dissentient voice to the statement that it is physically and morally impossible for the Dominion of Canada to construct the railway in the time specified, if this really be demanded at our hands.

In order rightly to understand the real nature and extent of the burden we would be required to take upon ourselves, it must be remembered that the lowest estimate for building the road to the Pacific is something over one hundred millions of dollars, and this, too, on the supposition that a very much longer time would be given for the construction. I entertain no doubt that if it were incumbent upon us to push the line through within the time specified (if this were possible), the expense would be enormously increased, and that a moderate estimate would reach one hundred and fifty or one hundred and sixty millions of dollars. Every hon. gentleman who has had experience in these matters knows that the cost of the construction of a work of this kind is largely enhanced if it be required to carry it to completion in a certain limited time. They well know, too, that there is great difficulty in carrying such a work through an unpeopled country, much of which, looking particularly to two sections of it, is a desert at least for arable purposes.

Were we to undertake such a burden as this, I would simply say that our national debt in seven years would be relatively to our population just one-third greater than that with which the United States emerged from their great civil war, and if measured by the rate of interest required, it would be one-third greater than the huge national debt of England. In other words, if we undertook to fulfil this project according to the strict letter of the law the burden we would require to ask you to lay upon yourselves for this purpose alone would probably be equal to a new debt of seven hundred or seven hundred and fifty millions of sterling imposed on the people of England, having regard to population, and the rates of interest we

would respectively have to pay, for this is an important element in the calculation. (*Hear, hear.*)

Were it the pleasure of the House to decide that the Pacific Railway must be completed in that time, it must also be prepared to take into account the sums required to be borrowed for other public works, and to redeem certain portions of the public debt; and at a moderate estimate over $200,000,000 would be needed for all purposes. In other words, we would be compelled to go to the London market—for this is the only market practically open to us—as borrowers of $30,000,000 every year for seven successive years. There may be hon. gentlemen in this House who think we would be able to do this, but if so, I envy them their faith in the future of the Dominion. (*Hear, hear and laughter.*) Now, sir, I say that such a project, involving such a charge, is ludicrously absurd. I say nothing as to the cost of keeping open the road when built; but before I have done hon. gentlemen will be able to judge for themselves what that item would be likely to reach, drawing their deductions from the experience derived in the working of smaller railways, of which we are at present the fortunate possessors.

Just now I spoke of our strict legal obligation. I desire to say one or two words on the circumstances under which this obligation was contracted, because I think they afford of themselves a pretty full justification of the action of the present Government. I must call to the minds of the older members of the House the debates and discussions which took place during the time our treaty with British Columbia was under consideration. They will remember that there was an exceedingly strong feeling in the House against some of the provisions of that treaty which, as we know, were carried by the smallest possible majority, very frequently being less than the aggregate number of Ministers having seats in the House. So very strong was the feeling, that it was afterwards determined that a certain resolution should be placed on the journals of the House, which indeed was actually done, and by which it was declared that, although we had committed ourselves to this claim, it was only on condition that the road should be made in a certain fashion, and that no excessive burden should be placed upon the resources of the country. I have also been informed that the British Columbia delegates were themselves consenting parties to the resolution. That, however, I do not know of my own personal knowledge.

This I do know, that I myself called the attention of Sir George-É. Cartier, the then Minister of Militia, to this extraordinary provision, asking him if he had communicated it to the Legislature of British Columbia. Some one of the delegates was then sitting beside the chair—I am not sure which of them, but I think it was Gov. Trutch. Sir George-É. Cartier's reply was that there was no need to do so, because the delegates were fully cognizant of the whole matter, and were assenting parties thereto. And although I do not say we can or will dissent from the consequences of our legal obligations, I do say that at any rate the people of British Columbia had very fair notice of what the intention and meaning of the House was when these obligations were undertaken. (*Hear, hear.*)

Now, Mr. Chairman, I come to the position of our financial affairs for the years 1873-1874. As I have pointed out to the Committee, the estimated receipts of last year were $21,740,000, and the estimated expenditure $22,586,727, showing a clear deficit of not less than $846,727. Now, Sir, there is a point in connection therewith to which I particularly request the attention of the Committee, because it is a matter which they cannot find out from the estimates or statements before them.

I find that the probable actual expense for the year 1873-1874, if all the items which Mr. Tilley demanded are expended, and the additional obligations which he incurred should also be put in force, will be (as the estimated expenditure should have been) something more than $24,000,000. To the $22,586,000 put down as Mr. Tilley's estimate we must add $400,000 for the expenses of Prince Edward Island, against which, however, there are receipts to be credited on the other side, to which I will refer in due course. In addition to that sum, it will be in the recollection of the Committee that the right hon. gentleman opposite introduced an Act for the better preservation of peace in the Northwest; and I desire to say that the expenditure necessary for that purpose will probably be no less than $200,000, for which no provision was made in the estimates brought down last year.

Then, again, as some of us are painfully aware, there was an election during the course of the current year which created an unprovided for expenditure of not less than $200,000. (*Hear, hear, from the Opposition benches.*) Hon. gentlemen say "Hear, hear", but whatever may be their opinion on the subject, I am inclined to think, and so I believe are the great majority of this House, that the money was well spent. (*Cheers.*) However, that may be a matter for difference of opinion, and I do not wish to press it. As I have already said, that would add some $200,000 to the expenditure.

In addition to that, I am afraid that in spite of the enormousness of the sum of $2,070,000 of estimated expenditure on collection of revenue for public works, and the strenuous exertions of my hon. friend beside me to keep that expenditure within bounds, it will be necessary largely to exceed that estimate. I much fear that the actual expenditure on this branch of public works will reach no less a sum than $2,400,000 from present appearances, although it is a point on which I would fain hope that myself and my hon. friend may prove to be mistaken. This would give about $400,000 more than the sum claimed last year, though I repeat that I am hardly in a position to speak quite authoritatively on this particular question. Then there was a large additional expenditure upon surveys of the Dominion lands, amounting to $100,000 odd, for which no provision was made last year. The Post Office will require $75,000 in addition, although *per contra* its receipts will, probably, considerably exceed its estimated revenue. In addition to that, there are several miscellaneous charges which will amount to $156,000. The House will thus see that the real estimate for 1873-1874—the elections being the only item for which we are fairly responsible—ought to have been $24,100,000.

With respect to the Receipts, I brought down and laid on the table of the House a statement showing our receipts for the current year, as far as it had gone. Now, Sir, I desire to say, with respect to the estimate of $21,740,000, that in the main it was correct. Some of the items were somewhat in excess, and one important one was enormously below Mr. Tilley's estimate for last year. In these estimates were not calculated the receipts for Prince Edward Island. They, however, do not materially alter the position of affairs, for

whatever benefit may have been derived from the addition of that Province was fully counterbalanced by deficits in other quarters.

Mr. Tilley's estimate of receipts from Customs for 1873-1874 was $12,500,000. The sum total for 1873-1874 will probably reach $13,000,000, and there is an excess in the statement above named of $200,000 over the corresponding period of last year; but while in this excess the receipts from Prince Edward Island are included, they were not calculated in Mr. Tilley's estimate. I am afraid, too, that I am not likely to receive quite as much money in proportion for that portion of the year which is yet to run; although, as I have said, I have no doubt that the sum claimed for customs will be reached, and somewhat exceeded, and that the sum for Excise will also be considerably more than the estimate. I am happy to say that the Post Office authorities, although they expend more money than they receive, are likely upon this occasion to have more than their estimated receipts. On the item of Public Works, including railways, the estimated receipts are likely to fall nearly $650,000 behind the actual receipts. The item of receipts and expenditures upon Public Works altogether shows a discrepancy, as between what was the estimate and what is apparently likely to be expended, of not less than one million dollars. That is to say, our receipts are $600,000 less than was anticipated, and our expenditure $400,000 more. I have no doubt that other items will come out so nearly correct as to need no further remark at the present moment.

Now, Sir, as I have said, what ought to have been the estimated expenditure for 1873-1874, in my judgment should have been $24,100,000, or at any rate not less than $23,900,000, not including the expenditure for elections. I desire to call the special attention of the House to that matter, because they might otherwise suppose that the present estimates were of unusual and extraordinary proportions. A revenue of twenty-one millions and three-quarters is very large for a population like ours, of about 3,500,000; and I have no doubt a great many of my hon. friends will be surprised that this country should be asked to expend so much money. They will, no doubt, be inclined to consider that it should not be called upon to expend more.

Unfortunately, the revenue, large as it is, is counterbalanced by fixed expenditure of an enormous and onerous character. Practically the net revenue which remains, after making the reduction I have already referred to, is little more than $6,500,000, or, at outside, $6,800,000, as I shall presently show to the House. If the Committee will glance at the estimated expenditure for 1873-1874, they will see that a sum of about $6,300,000 was demanded by Mr. Tilley for interest upon our debts, and contingent charges; that a further sum, which did not include Prince Edward Island, but, with Prince Edward Island, was about $4,000,000, was demanded for the payment of our subsidies under the new arrangements; then, also, under the head of "Charges on Revenue" rather more than four millions and a half appear to have been required—in other words, from twenty-one millions and three-quarters there require to be deducted no less than fifteen millions in order to get the actual net revenue of the Dominion. Sir, undoubtedly the country is perfectly justified in asking the Government whether it is necessary for us to expend even that six millions and three-quarters, although, as I have already said, the apparent income above named and the actual income which we received were very widely different indeed with the view of answering this question.

I have endeavoured to make out a statement of cost in detail, setting forth as nearly as I can what our expenditures ought to be if it was in our power to start afresh, and to reduce matters to the standard to which we would desire to reduce them. I am sorry to say that by no calculation that I can make can I arrive at much less than $7,000,000 as a minimum estimate, without taking into account certain engagements into which we have entered, and which will for the present prevent the possibility of our reducing our expenditure to that sum.

This expenditure is composed of the following items:—The first is one of nearly $600,000—I use the round number for convenience sake—for legislative purposes. About two-thirds of this sum goes to meet the indemnity and mileage of members of this honourable House, and of the Upper Chamber. Whether I could venture to suggest any reduction of that amount I do not know. (*Hear, hear.*) That is a matter within the control of the House rather than mine, and under these circumstances, and bearing in mind the large sums for printing and similar purposes, I do not think I could estimate any less sum for the object. So also I fear I must not set down less, under the head of Civil Government, which includes His Excellency's salary and the salaries of Lieutenant-Governors, than $900,000. More than $200,000 goes to the salaries of Governor General and so forth, and the balance is applied to the various exigencies of the Civil Service. On this point it may be possible that some saving may be made, but I dare not promise my hon. friends that any large reduction can be looked for. I have put down the sum which, under our present system, is probably the minimum which we can expend under this head. The Dominion is increasing enormously in size, and this increase in size has involved an increase in our expenditure totally disproportionate to the increase in our revenue. It is a question, perhaps, whether at Confederation we might not have inaugurated our Government on a less expensive scale than the present; but we are obliged to take the system as we find it, and with such an immense country, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, I doubt whether I can hold out any great hopes of reduction under that head. Still, something may perhaps be done in the way of saving money, and it will be our duty carefully to consider the question and see if any saving can possibly take place.

For the item of Justice, including the penitentiaries and the Police of the Dominion, a similar sum of $900,000 would appear to be required. Most of that amount is fixed by statute, and although it is possible the penitentiaries may be so conducted as to return us a larger sum that they do at present, still, looking at the fact that we are bound to maintain penitentiaries in British Columbia and Manitoba, and have recently had to establish a new one in Quebec, I fear the saving will be very inconsiderable. I am afraid that any saving which we could make would be swallowed up by the new penitentiaries which, I believe, we are obliged to erect by treaty.

For Marine and Fisheries, including ocean subsidies, and so on, the estimates of 1873-1874, and our own estimates, require at least a sum of $900,000. A great deal of this is absolutely necessary. It may be that some portion of the subsidies may be hereafter reduced,

but a great portion being for treaty engagements, I am sorry to say that there is not very great room for reduction in this matter. This outlay is divided generally into two classes—subsidies of all sorts, amounting to $300,000 or $400,000, and the sum generally demanded for lighthouse expenditure, which is something like $500,000, the great part of which goes to keep up the lighthouses already established throughout the Dominion.

The next item to which I would direct the attention of the House is the sum which we required to expend for the purposes of militia and defence, and which I estimate at a minimum of $1,050,000. It is clear that this Dominion, especially seeing the immense territories in the Northwest which it includes, must have some sort of military force at its disposal. It may be possible to reduce the other portion of the militia establishment, but I, for one, would be very unwilling to agree to that, although I admit there may be room for great improvement in the administration of the Militia Department. Still it would require very great pressure indeed, before I would be a party to advise the sweeping away of the system of home defence which we at present enjoy. It resolves itself into a question of regard for national honour to a large extent; and, moreover, we are bound over to the Home government to expend a large portion of that sum annually for this purpose.

The next item is one of very great magnitude. I refer to the various public works chargeable to revenue. That sum has swollen year by year to an enormous extent. For the current year, $2,450,000 was demanded by Mr. Tilley, but whether my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works will be compelled to expend the whole of that sum in carrying out the engagements of his predecessor, or not, it is impossible to say. I suppose, as usual, that some of his estimates will fall below the mark, and some will probably be overdrawn. I have estimated $1,500,000 as the sum which will probably be required per annum, as soon as our present engagements are closed, and that is a point to which I direct the special attention of the House.

I estimate that a sum of about half a million for immigration and certain minor services usually charged to that Department will be required. We have set apart, partly through an arrangement made by the late Government, no less a sum than $500,000 for that object. Well, Sir, if that sum is well spent, it is probably as desirable an investment as it is possible to make. It is our duty to see that it is well expended, and that the country receives some benefit from the investment of that large sum. We will require for the subsidies to Indians and for contingent expenses in the Northwest Territory (I am putting these things at the minimum) no less than $500,000 —a very large sum, but looking at the necessity of preserving the peace of the country, and also remembering that I include in it the expenses of the Mounted Police, I do not see how it can be reduced. For the various miscellaneous services almost nothing is left of the aggregate of $7,000,000.

The minimum estimate when present engagements are closed would therefore be seven millions, as follows:

Legislation	$600,000
Civil Government	900,000
Justice	900,000
Marine	900,000
Militia	1,050,000
Public Works	1,500,000
Immigration	500,000
Indian, Northwest	500,000
Miscellaneous (quite inadequate)	150,000
Total	$7,000,000

I have gone into this detail partly in order to call the attention of the House to the enormous expenditure under the head of "fixed charges" on our revenue—a revenue which, although nominally large, is really and practically, considering the extent of our Dominion and the magnitude of the services which we are obliged to perform, a comparatively small one. This large apparent income, however, has this disadvantage, that hon. gentlemen, ourselves included, knowing that we have a nominal revenue of nearly twenty-two millions, imagine and state that a large saving can be made out of it.

I have followed the usual practice of calculating the expenditure of the Post Office and the charges for maintenance and repairs of our Public Works under the head of collections of revenue. It may be well to observe that nothing but Customs and Excise and similar matters appear to be charged under this head in other countries. For purposes of description however I have thought it better to adhere to our present custom.

Let us consider this point in detail. Out of such items as the subsidies and the interest on the public debt no saving can be made. Out of the charges for collection of revenue possibly some considerable saving may be effected in the future, but for the present we are confronted by the effects of the policy which we found when we came into office, and we are obliged to go on, for some time at any rate, endeavouring to fulfil the engagements which our predecessors entered into. It is also possible that hon. gentlemen, looking at the enormous increase in our trade, in our imports and in our revenue, which has taken place steadily since Confederation up to the present time, may say that after all is said and done we have only to wait for a short time, and the natural expansion of our commerce will provide the means of remedying these deficiencies, and putting us in the same position in which we were a few years ago.

I will be very glad indeed if this should prove to be the case, but I doubt whether, looking at the general position of the country, it would be safe to reckon on any great advance for some time to come. It must be remembered that at present the agricultural interest of the country, although not seriously depressed, cannot be said to be in as flourishing a condition as it was a few years ago. Then as regards lumber, another most important interest, the exports from which usually exceed even those from agriculture, it is a matter of notoriety that a large portion of that trade is at present in an exceedingly depressed state, and that one of our cheapest customers, particularly for that article—I mean the people of the United States—are also labouring under considerable financial

difficulties. At present, I learn from gentlemen of the manufacturing interest that their American competitors are in such straits that they are compelled to sell a large portion of their property here at less than its original cost. For all these reasons, we cannot, I am afraid, describe the current year as one that is likely to be prosperous in comparison with years that have gone before.

Still, I am bound to say that the result of my observations is far from discouraging. We have stood still, but we have not retrograded, and looking at the state of our commerce, I think that speaks well for the general condition of the country. It is possible, after all, that the stringency which occurred in 1873 may have a beneficial effect on the whole. The people of Canada and more particularly the banking institutions of Canada have displayed considerable prudence and discretion under very trying circumstances, and although we cannot look to any great expansion during the coming year, I think we need have no fear of any material retrogression.

I beg to state that the official returns for the eight months ending the first March, 1874, show a total importation of $83,402,329, as compared with $84,364,291 imported during the same period of the year 1873; this however includes a considerable amount on account of Prince Edward Island. It will therefore be seen that there has been a decrease in the value of our imports as compared with 1873, but on the other hand, I am glad to say that our exports during the same period have increased considerably. (*Hear, hear.*) For the same part of the current year they amount to $62,742,000 as against $59,455,000 during the preceding year. (*Hear, hear.*) As I have already said, this fairly illustrates the statement that while we have perhaps on the whole stood still, we have not retrograded. The exports of Prince Edward Island are included in the calculation for this year, but the amount is not very large. The ratio in which trade has increased during the past four years, although some hon. gentlemen may differ from me on the point, establishes, in my opinion, an argument in favour of a temporary pause now. It is quite probable, however, that we may go on increasing to a moderate extent, although no considerable expansion should be looked for during two or three years to come. I am quite aware of the contingencies which govern these matters. None of us can say, for instance, what kind of a harvest we may have this year; none of us can tell what accidents may affect our trade and commerce; but what we do know is this, that the probabilities are very much in favour of a more moderate increase in the future than in the past.

Moreover, there is another matter to which I have called the attention of the House before, and to which I desire for a moment to call attention again, and that is the comparatively stationary character of the population in the older Provinces of Canada, which must bear the chief burden of additional taxation. I may be pardoned for here repeating to the House a statement I made twelve months ago, that it appears clear from the census returns submitted to us last year that the progress of this country in this one single respect had been, comparatively speaking, very small during the last ten years. I find, Sir, on looking over the returns for the Province of Ontario, the largest and most populous Province of the Dominion, that out of the 88 electoral districts into which it is divided, there were only thirty-five in which the increase was ten per cent during the ten years. Precisely the same thing has occurred, under the same conditions, in the great State of New York and other States of the Union, which are in the most highly prosperous condition. I am, therefore, justified in warning the House that so far as regards the older Provinces of the Dominion we ought not to look for any very large increase of population. Although we may fairly expect that our people will grow rapidly in wealth, we cannot look for any great increase in their numbers. Any hon. gentleman who is desirous of further examining the matter and testing the correctness of the statements I have made will find upon reference to our own returns and those of the United States that they are only too well founded.

The stationary position of our population does undoubtedly bear very strongly upon the question whether we can expect any very large increase in the gross income of the country. I have been at some pains to ascertain the facts in regard to this matter, and from the statistics which I have got, which I am bound to say I think very imperfect, I calculate approximately that the net income of our people averages from $400 to $500 per family. The amount is a very respectable one, although in one or two other countries the average is from $620 to $725. I think, however, that I am tolerably correct in assuming the net income of our people, as I have already said, at from $400 to $500 per family. It is much larger in the United States, where the average is said to be something like $800 per family; but there is this fact in our favour—that the purchasing power of money is very much greater with us than it is with them. There is a much better distribution of income for another thing and probably the actual value of the average income in Canada is nearly as great as in the United States, notwithstanding the nominal difference.

An income like ours carries with it the power of bearing without inconvenience a considerable amount of taxation, if properly applied. This is a point of much moment inasmuch as there is only too much reason to fear that the taxation of the United States had reduced the comforts of a large class of the population, and that the whole people are very much poorer than they ought to be, chiefly on account of the system upon which their revenue is collected. The power which our income possesses of bearing taxation, however, should in this country be used with great moderation.

Moreover, in imposing fresh taxes upon the people we must bear in mind that a great proportion of them, especially in Ontario, labour under heavy local taxation. That of the Province of Ontario amounts to no less than $6,000,000 per annum. I find myself, upon examining the municipal statistics of the cities and chief towns of the Dominion, that they have a total public debt of $22,000,000. I think it necessary to mention these matters because it is absolutely requisite that the House should bear in mind that the taxes which are levied upon the people for Dominion purposes are by no means the only taxes they are expected to bear.

While I am on this subject, I trust I may be pardoned for saying that I rather think it will be found necessary, in the course of a few years, to consider very seriously the position in which the taxing power now stands. I have always looked upon it as a very objectionable principle to allow this House, the Local Legislatures, and the municipal bodies to have the power of imposing almost any

amount of taxes we may severally think fit. I am bound to say that, in the light of the result in the neighbouring country, and in many of our own municipalities, I consider it would be highly expedient to have a revision of the system, in order to see whether we cannot devise some mode of re-distributing this power. However, this has no further bearing upon the subject in hand, expect as it bears upon the necessity for caution in imposing taxation. The chief reason for calling attention to it is this—that when any question arises between direct and indirect taxation, it will be well to remember that six millions are already levied by direct taxation for local purposes in the Province to which I have referred.

There is another point here, while I am dealing with the question of our resources, upon which I will say a word. Many hon. gentlemen expect that as our new territories are settled we will receive considerable pecuniary assistance from them. Now this might be the case if they were situated in close proximity to us, as was the case with some new territories in the United States. In such case there might be a good deal of force in the expectation; but, as it is, for a great many years to come we cannot look for a great amount of revenue from our new territories, chiefly because they are separated from us by such long intervals of country which are now unpeopled, and from their nature and situation must so remain for a considerable time to come.

Now, Mr. Chairman, it becomes my duty to call the attention of the House to an item of special interest—I mean the sum total of the estimates of 1874-1875. I have no doubt my hon. friends behind me were startled and horrified at this sum when I brought it down, as I can assure them I was when I first perceived how large an estimate I would be obliged to bring down to this House. No less a sum than $41,906,000 will be required for the public service of 1874-1875, from which, however, we must deduct the sum of $5,752,000 which is simply a redemption of existing debt. This will reduce the total very considerably, and if hon. members will further look for a moment to the column known as "Public Works chargeable to Capital Account," they will find that the sum under this head, which should be also deducted, is $11,606,625; nevertheless, the sum still remaining amounts to $24,549,000. This estimate, I must admit, is exceedingly large, and requires, and, I hope, will receive full explanation. I would remark, before I proceed further, that there is an accidental error of $25,000 in the English copy of the estimates, which, however, has been corrected in the French copy.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the total sum demanded for the services of the year is, as I have stated, $24,549,000. Out of that sum, to follow the line of argument to which I previously had recourse, about $6,831,000 should be deducted as representing interest and charges on our debt, a charge over which, except as to expenditure of new capital, we have necessarily no sort of control. (This indicates the Sinking Fund, but a credit is given in the receipts for a large sum as interest on investments partly on same account.) A further charge of no less than five and a half million dollars will be found under the head Collection of Revenue, and a further sum of $3,757,000 under the head of Subsidies. Now, Sir, for all these amounts, as I will presently show, I think this Government cannot be held in any shape responsible, with the solitary exception of the addition to the interest for new expenditure.

I now proceed to point out to the Committee how and in what shape these excesses have been caused. The Committee will bear in mind that I showed them at some length that the true estimates for 1873-1874 ought to have amounted to $24,100,000. The sum which I find was required to be expended according to Mr. Tilley's estimates—including, of course, the various increases made by what is generally known as the Re-adjustment Act of last session—comprised an amount for Civil Government of $856,000. I estimate that $921,000 will be required. There is an error of $25,000 in the printed estimate, which gives $946,000 as the amount required. As to this excess, in the first place, a sum of $7,000 is appropriated for the Governor of Prince Edward Island—a necessary and inevitable charge. In the second place $25,000 more has been added to the estimate for contingencies, made for the year 1872-1873. The appropriation asked for by the late Government was exceeded by the sum of about $30,000; and I find that the expenditure under the same head for 1873-1874 will be quite as high. The exact amount to be voted is $714,815.

When we entered office we found that it was scarcely possible to reduce the estimate, do what we would, below a like figure. These charges, which included contingencies, have been enormously increased by the addition of these new Provinces; and although we will use our best endeavours to reduce it, I do not know that any considerable saving can be hoped for. At all events, I feel that is better and more honest to place that sum in the estimates at once, instead of perpetually bringing down supplementary estimates, as my hon. friends opposite would have had to do for 1872-1873, and also for 1873-1874. These sums, and also a sum of very near $10,000, assigned for Dominion Lands in Manitoba, make up the great bulk of additional expenditure. It is true that in the Department of Public Works a considerable excess was necessary, and I think that no one who reflects on the enormous number of public enterprises in which the country is at present engaged can say that my hon. friend is to blame for endeavouring to secure the best possible talent in the public service, and in that respect I believe that the money here asked for will be perhaps the cheapest demand made upon the House. There is also a considerable increase in the Post Office, in which, as I have already explained, the expenditures, but also the receipts, are continually augmented.

The remaining expenditures were all of them, I think (though I speak with some reserve on the subject), authorized by our predecessors before leaving office, or at any rate all except the expenditures incurred under the ordinary provisions of the Civil Service Act. However, I shall reserve detail under this head until I go over the present estimates. My present object is to show that the apparent excess of $58,000 is in great part purely nominal, and that what is not purely nominal is caused by the action of our predecessors themselves. On the next item, the Administration of Justice, the Committee will perceive that the expenditure is almost the same as before. There is some little increase with regard to the judges in Prince Edward Island, and in respect of a small excess in the police force. The Committee will see that whenever additional territory is taken in, some increase in expenditure, however small, must be necessary. The next item requires no explanation, inasmuch as there is a reduction in cost of Penitentiaries. I hope we shall be able hereafter either to make a still further reduction, or to make

these establishments more self-sustaining than they are at present; but it is, of course, impossible for us, after so short a tenure of office, to speak decisively on this point.

The expenses of legislation estimated by Hon. Mr. Tilley and myself differ by some $24,000, a considerable portion of which is caused by the addition of Prince Edward Island to the Dominion, which necessitates additional indemnities and expenses. The estimated expenditures of 1873-1874 will be largely exceeded by the expenses of the elections, which are generally charged under this head. Under the head of Arts, Agriculture, and Statistics, there is a reduction of $50,000, a saving which we hope to effect. I have brought down an estimate of $94,000, but I hope not to expend all of it. On Immigration and Quarantine we have brought down a sum rather larger than our predecessors. In the estimates hon. gentlemen will see that a sum of about $107,000 is necessary to provide for the performance of the contract for the importation of a certain number of Mennonite families into the Northwest Territories, so that we have been obliged to bring down a larger sum than we expected. The excess, however, is necessarily due to the contract, be it good or be it bad, made by our predecessors. The items of Pensions and Superannuation are substantially the same, though there are some small increases under the working of the Act.

On Militia we have made a reduction on the sum estimated last year, and this year we estimate $953,000, against $1,000,000 estimated by our predecessors last year. The item for Military Stores which appeared this year will not appear next year, this being the third and last instalment on that account. The Northwest expenditure, consisting of maintenance of the 343 men at Fort Garry and thereabouts, is estimated at $175,000, in place of $140,000 estimated last year, that sum having been found entirely inadequate. As a matter of course, it is necessary for us, doubly necessary perhaps at present, to maintain that force under existing circumstances. Whether we shall be able to dispense with it in the future will depend upon the position of the Northwest, and the general influence of emigration into that country. I hope to see the Northwest, before long, able to provide for its self-protection. For the next item, the Mounted Police, $200,000 will be asked in the supplementary vote for this year, and for that force we will be obliged to expend an annual sum of not less than $185,000. So long as the country takes upon itself the task of maintaining peace and order throughout the Northwest, it is utterly impossible to escape such expenditure as this. We have been compelled to assume the obligation already incurred, and to recommend an appropriation under this head to the House.

Then with regard to public works chargeable to income, my hon. friend, the Minister of Public Works, estimates that he will require no less than $2,630,000. That estimate is larger than Mr. Tilley's, which was $2,450,000; but I call the attention of the Committee to those items of the estimates, because they will find that in the particulars chargeable to income my hon. friend has hardly an item on his own account, with the exception of St. John's harbour, the whole of this sum being devoted to carrying out works actually engaged in by his predecessors. I am aware that some of my hon. friends think this enormous outlay need not be gone on with; but I desire to say that these public works which are in process of construction must be completed within a short time. I can see no purpose to be served by "cooking" our estimates, and apparently reducing the amount chargeable this year in order that it may be swollen the next. My hon. friend has preferred, and I think he was perfectly right in so doing, to bring down these estimates to show the obligations placed on him by the action of the late Government.

I invite the special attention of the Committee to these items, because they will see that in going through the estimates of roads and bridges and buildings in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia, votes had been taken, money spent, and work actually engaged in by my hon. friend's predecessors. I contend that my hon. friend cannot fairly be held responsible for going on with work which he found actually commenced, and in some cases half completed, by the late Government; and if these items are excessive, the fault does not lie with my hon. friend—the fault lies with the hon. gentlemen who rendered it necessary that he should demand this sum at the hands of the House. (*Hear, hear.*) We are at this moment engaged in completing extensive public works of this particular kind, and possibly some of these might fairly be charged to the capital account. But it has not been done heretofore, and, on the whole, it would not now be expedient to commence it; though, in any case, I hope a considerable saving will be effected. I must again repeat that it would be in the last degree unjust to my hon. friend, the Minister of Public Works to hold him responsible for this state of things, or to ask him to stop works already commenced, and to put a reduced sum in the estimates; but when the works now engaged in are completed, which I expect will be the case in eighteen months, a considerable saving will be effected in the annual expenditure, though for this considerable period of time it is necessarily required. (*Hear, hear.*)

Under the head of "Ocean and River Service", in which I have included some items which formerly appeared in the Miscellaneous account, the House will see that some reduction is proposed, and probably something will be saved, though I can hardly venture to assume what amount may hereafter be found to be the reduced expenditure. On the Lighthouse service, we are compelled to ask for a small additional appropriation, chiefly, I believe, on account of the excessive liberality our predecessors evinced in agreeing to erect lighthouses in Prince Edward Island at a critical period during the late session. (*Laughter.*) In the item of the "Fisheries" some small increase is required. I regret that my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Hon. Mr. Smith) not being present, I cannot state exactly why this is asked for. In the Geological Survey we hope to effect a small saving, although we intend to prosecute this survey with all possible speed. For Marine Hospitals for sick and disabled seamen, a slight additional sum is required. Steamboat inspection is an item which pays for itself. In "Subsidies" there is an apparent, though not of course a real, saving. This past year there was under this head $3,984,000, against $3,757,464 for the current year. The saving, I regret to say, is simply apparent, as the sum of $190,000 has to be added to the charge for interest.

Under the head of Indians we spend $149,000 in place of $88,000, that extraordinary expenditure having been caused by treaties made prior to our entering office. I am not condemning

these treaties; I am merely calling attention to the manner in which this additional expenditure was incurred. The Boundary Survey, as the Committee knows, is not under our control. The money expended is under the direction of the Imperial Government, and the Imperial Government—if I understand the matter right—defray one-half the cost. We have no control over the expenditure. I think these are the terms of the agreement. Under the head "Miscellaneous", we propose to expend pretty much the same amount as last year, the excess being only one or two thousand dollars. Under the head of "Collection of Customs" we bring down an estimate for $685,100, against $602,000 last year; and this is in a considerable degree due to the admission of Prince Edward Island.

As regards the remainder, I desire to say I am informed and believe it is because of the liberality displayed by our predecessors, and which we in consequence thought we were bound to extend to this very deserving service. We found additional appropriations necessary, on account of what has been asked for and promised having been secured by Order in Council. The same remarks as to the increase apply to the Inland Revenue service. The item of "Culling Timber" requires no special explanation, inasmuch as the receipts from that source are always in excess of the expenditure. The item of "Public Works", that is, the collection of the revenue of these works, calls for the earnest consideration of this House.

The House will observe that we have been compelled to come down with a demand on account of the collection of revenues from Public Works of not less than $2,867,000, against $2,070,000 asked for by our predecessors. With respect to this, I desire to say that the sum of $2,070,000 is altogether inadequate to the requirements of this service. In the first place, no less a sum than $202,000 is computed as being required to maintain the Prince Edward Island Railway, of which we are the fortunate possessors, and as to the remainder my hon. friend has found it necessary to ask for $496,000 more than in the previous year to defray the expense of the Intercolonial and other Government Railways in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The attention of the Committee can hardly be too strongly called to this item. I need scarcely say that this is a matter which is engaging the serious attention of my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie), but I desire to add again, that he cannot be held responsible for remitting this matter to the House as he finds it. It is perfectly clear that if the Government work these railways on the system on which they have hitherto been worked, there will be an enormous deficit.

I must leave it to my hon. friend at a later period in the session to enter upon this matter more in detail. My duty, for the present, is merely to explain how it comes to pass that we are compelled with the utmost reluctance to propose an augmentation. We found this state of things in operation. We found that the cost of working these roads was so enormous that the estimates of our predecessors were insufficient to defray the expense. We found also that the annual revenue was constantly falling short, and the House will see that the tendency had become apparent even prior to 1872-1873. If the House will look at the receipts from Public Works, they will find that in 1871-72 they amounted to $1,211,000, and in 1872-73 they were increased to $1,316,000, a difference of barely over $100,000, while the expenditure had increased during the corresponding year by nearly half a million. My hon. friend the Minister of Public Works will address himself with the utmost energy to redress this matter, and he encourages me to hope that in one way or other, either by the reduction of the expenditure or the increase of the receipts, in a short time a more wholesome state of things will be brought about in this matter.

An expenditure of $1,505,000 on Post Office account is set down for this year against $1,316,000 last year. On this point I desire to say that $49,000 is required for the Service in Prince Edward Island, but if the necessities of the Post Office Department are large, my hon. Friend's receipts are preserving a fair ratio. He will receive a considerable addition to the receipts this year, so that the increase (apart from the $50,000 to which I have referred for Prince Edward Island) will, I trust, be recouped by the receipts.

At this point, it being yet a quarter to six, Hon. Mr. Cartwright said it would be impossible for him to close the remarks he was about to make before six o'clock, and as he would presently be entering a larger field, he hoped the House would allow it to be considered six o'clock. (*Loud cheers.*)

The House then took recess.

AFTER RECESS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT resumed his speech: Mr. Chairman, before the House rose I was pointing out how the excess in the estimates of this year over the preceding year had been caused. If the House will pardon me, I desire to say again, that for the purpose of comparison, the estimates of 1873-1874 ought to have calculated the various sums required for the different services at a little over $24,000,000. Now, Sir, it will be observed that upon this occasion we ask for estimates to the extent of $24,549,000 —that is to say, about half a million more than is likely to be actually required for last year. That excess is made up by interest on capital for new public works, which will amount to nearly $400,000, and a sum of $200,000, which will be required for the working of the Prince Edward Island Railways. This would equal the entire sum by which our estimates exceed, what, in reality, should have been the estimate for last year. We have made considerable reductions on almost all the items except upon the expenditure for collection of revenues and on public works chargeable to annual income.

Before I proceed further, I desire to correct one error which I fell into with regard to the resolution of April, 1871, passed after the treaty with British Columbia was agreed to. I had been under the impression that that resolution declared that the Pacific Railroad should be built without unduly increasing the taxation of Canada. The actual text is stronger still. Sir George-É. Cartier (Minister of Militia and Defence, 1867-1873) moved, and Mr. Tilley (Minister of Customs, 1867-1873) seconded, a resolution setting forth that the railway referred to in the Act concerning the Union of British Columbia with Canada, adopted on Saturday, the lst of April, should be constructed by a Company formed of private individuals, and not by the Dominion Government; that the Company building it

should be assisted by liberal money subsidies and liberal grants of land, provided always that no increase of the then rate of taxation should hereafter be determined upon in consequence. That, Sir, was the resolution placed upon our journals on the motion of Sir George-É. Cartier, seconded by Mr. Tilley. It was of value for the reason I have alluded to, because it was represented to us at the time it was passed that the delegates from British Columbia were assenting parties thereto.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I spoke before the recess at some length upon the extraordinary deficiency arising from the working of the Intercolonial Railway, and the other railroads of the Dominion, chiefly in the Maritime Provinces. The deficiency arising from these sources are reported as likely to amount to the extraordinary sum of about a million and a quarter dollars. I desire to call the special attention of the House to one point, which must be clear to every hon. gentleman. These railways run for the most part through a country which has been settled for the last fifty or sixty years. I cannot refer, of course, to the fact that these railroads entail such an enormous expenditure, without its becoming apparent to the House that the cost of the maintenance of a railway nearly 3,000 miles in length, and passing through a country which is almost entirely uninhabited, must be of necessity very much greater. For a very long time, even after the actual construction of this railway, an enormous charge must be levied upon this country in order to keep it in full working order and repair, and this fact must be steadily kept sight of in considering the real character of that project.

I now come to the expenditures on account of the minor Provinces. I do not at all call attention to this matter by way of complaining of this particular expenditure, but simply as a matter of fact, and in proof of the statement with which I prefaced my remarks, that Canada was able to meet her ordinary expenses, and that the large deficiency which now existed arose mainly from the service of these outlying Provinces. Now, I find that the estimated expenditure for the current year, which I think may be relied upon as correct to within a few dollars, for the Province of Manitoba is $152,000. This simply consists of such charges as Subsidy, Civil Government, Administration of Justice, and the like. The ordinary expenses, I say, are $152,000, and the ordinary receipts amount apparently to about $49,000. I say again that I am not complaining of this, but I am calling the attention of the House to it only to prove that we are not dealing very illiberally with that Province. The whole expenditure in connection with the Northwest Territories and Manitoba amounts collectively to no less a sum than $1,036,000, which includes the expenditure upon public works, Dominion lands, and all miscellaneous charges of that kind. This country has undertaken very grave and serious responsibilities, which it must bear, and is willing to bear, but it is very necessary that we should fully understand their extent before we incur fresh ones, and I wish to point out to this House the enormous mass of expenses placed upon us by the discharge of our obligations to the outlying portions of the country.

With respect to the Province of British Columbia, as to which I have heard it stated that some of my hon. friends from that province are under the impression that we are receiving a revenue greater than our expenditure in connection with it, I have to say that our total receipts for 1872-1873 were $417,000, while our outlay was $627,000, showing a total expenditure over revenue against the Dominion of $200,000. For the years 1873-1874 the expenses of the Province are estimated to amount to $772,000, including the Sinking Fund, or say $700,000 net, while the receipts are only expected to amount to $400,000. I repeat that I do not refer to those things by way of complaining of the expense, but for the purpose of showing how we have found ourselves subject to the deficiency. What I said in relation to the Province of Manitoba and its expenditure also holds good with regard to British Columbia. Those expenditures, as included in this $700,000, are simply in connection with the subsidy, interest upon public works, and the ordinary contingent expenses. The hon. gentlemen from that Province will see that the Dominion Government are annually expending from $200,000 to $300,000 upon that Province more than they receive from it. A still larger disproportion is likely to prevail in the coming year, only there will be a large amount expended for public works, which will probably not continue more than two or three years at most.

In the case of my hon. friends from Prince Edward Island, I am quite aware that the receipts from various sources in their Province were considerably less during the current year than we expect they will be during the ensuing year; still the ordinary expenditure of Prince Edward Island cannot, it has been calculated, be much less than $500,000, and the probable receipts will be from $150,000 to $200,000 a year less than that sum. I have not a word to say to my hon. friends from that Province as to the excellent bargain they have made with the Dominion. My hon. friends knew perfectly well what they were about when they came up to Ottawa last year, and it would be perfectly unfair to blame them for securing such very excellent terms for themselves, particularly in view of the heavy contingent expenses to which the Dominion was committed. The expenses of working their railways require to be added to the annual excess of Prince Edward Island for some time to come, and it is not improbable that the whole may reach $700,000. On the other hand, I doubt very much whether we can count upon more than $400,000 of a yearly income, at most, from all sources in that Province.

Taking all our expenditures for these purposes together, it is clear that independently of the Pacific Railway, there will be a very severe drain upon the resources of the Dominion for some time to come. I should be very sorry indeed that my friends should think I had any wish to adopt an unfair or illiberal policy towards them. I simply mention these things, as I have already said, to show how these large deficiencies to which I have referred occur, and to call the attention of the House to the facts.

Now, Mr. Chairman, as I have said, we will require, as far as we can see at present, for the service of the current year, no less a sum than $24,600,000 in round numbers. As against this expenditure we count on the following receipts under our present tariff. From customs, all told, including Prince Edward Island, we expect to receive about $13,000,000, which is some $500,000 above Mr. Tilley's estimate for the present year. From Excise we expect a little over five million dollars, which is also over Mr. Tilley's estimate. From the Post Office we will probably receive upon this occasion

$1,100,000. It may be a little more, but I do not anticipate that it will be very much more. This is also in excess of last year.

In public works, however, I would not be justified in assuming that we shall receive a larger sum than $1,600,000 instead of $2,250,000 as estimated for 1873-1874, although I sincerely hope that my hon. friend beside me (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) and myself have been mistaken in estimating the revenue from this source at so small a sum. I think, however, that I must, for the purpose of calculation, base my estimate upon the facts which are before me. Considering all the circumstances, therefore, I do not think we can venture to go beyond the sum I have mentioned. From Bill Stamps we shall probably have $200,000 in round numbers, which is an increase on last year. From Interest upon Investments we shall probably have $500,000, which is less than last year by some $100,000, but it will be remembered, with reference to this source of the revenue compared with last year, that there were circumstances then existing which are not likely to occur again. However, we may receive a little more from miscellaneous sources, which I estimate at $600,000.

On the whole, I do not think we can receive a larger sum from present sources than $22,000,000, and therefore it is quite clear that a very large amount of additional taxes will be necessary in order to put Government in a position to meet the liabilities of the country. It may be of some little interest to observe that Mr. Tilley himself, although he took a much more sanguine view of the situation than I did, stated publicly that some additional taxes would by and by have to be proposed, although he did not think it necessary to impose them last year. His words were:—"That under the peculiar circumstances in which we were placed, there was a certainty of an increase, and by next year some re-adjustment must take place. The Government did not think it necessary to make any present change, because they thought they would be able to meet the present requirements of the country without it."

Now, unfortunately there will be, as I have stated, a considerable difference between the receipts and expenditures of the present year, although Mr. Tilley did not anticipate it at the time. A certain portion of that difference arose, to be sure, from circumstances which he could not then have foreseen, and over which he had no control. My hon. friend beside me reminds me of a point which the House will at once see. Within the last few days a very large amount of taxation has been pouring into the exchequer on account of the anticipated increase in the tariff, but what this makes up will of necessity be lost within the next few months. In short, so much the more we receive in anticipation of the changes in the tariff, so much the less we shall receive afterwards.

The House is perfectly well aware that in addition to the expenditures which I have enumerated, some of which may be reduced, although collectively I cannot hold out the hope of any large reduction, we are pledged to a very large expenditure on capital account during the next half dozen years, and, therefore, Sir, that it is necessary and desirable that in imposing taxation now, we should provide, as far as we can, for the future burdens, which we know must fall upon the country through the necessity of paying interest on this large additional expenditure.

As far as it is possible to form a calculation, I am in hopes that, if a sufficient amount of taxation is now laid on to meet the present gross annual expenditure, in view of the gradual growth of the country—though I do not believe it will be to the same extent as we have hitherto seen—we may be able not only to meet the requirements of the current year with a small margin over, but to dispense with the necessity for additional taxation for a considerable period, perhaps altogether. But these requirements I must emphatically state to the House are of a very serious character. We must, I think, provide for an additional taxation to the extent of three million dollars. Our present actual revenue, apart from cross accounts and items arising from collection of revenue, is not much over eighteen million dollars from all sources; and I admit that the proposal to add one-sixth part to the taxation is one of great gravity. I only say, in regard to this point, that had our advice been taken this would not have been necessary (*hear, hear*), and that we are now called upon to confront and repair errors for which we were not primarily responsible.

It will be our desire in laying on that taxation, as far as we can, to so adjust it that it may fall as fairly as possible upon the whole community. I do not pretend to say that taxation of that kind can be imposed without some inconvenience, but we have endeavoured to see that no interest was unduly burdened, and it is the earnest desire of the Government to make it as equitable as we possibly can. Perhaps it will be advisable, before I proceed further, that I should place the tariff resolutions in the hands of the Committee, and for that purpose I will resume my seat for a few moments while these are distributed and placed in the hands of members.

The resolutions were then distributed.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT continued: The first article upon which the Government desires to propose increased taxation is the article of wines. Now, that article is to a great extent, though not entirely, an article of luxury; and yet, out of a total importation last year of 847,000 gallons, the total revenue was only $237,000, being about 25 cents per gallon. I do think few people will dispute that the article will fairly bear additional taxation in any case where additional taxation is needed, and I propose substantially to double that duty by imposing a tax of 40 cents per gallon on wines of a certain degree of proof, 60 cents on other wines, except sparkling wines, and 80 cents on all sparkling wines.

In doing this, Mr. Chairman, I desire to say—and the same remark will apply to our course on some other duties—that we prefer to place specific duties instead of placing *ad valorem* duties. I am aware that *ad valorem* duties appear to be the fairer mode, but I believe this is one of those cases in which the theory is one way, and the practice another. Practically we find that frauds are attempted under this system, and our valuers really do themselves, in a sort of rough justice, what we propose to do here. I find that in the Australian colonies, which are closely akin to ourselves, the specific duties have to some extent replaced the *ad valorem* duties; and in the colony of New South Wales the specific duties are divided somewhat as I have divided them in regard to wines, only they are much higher. All classes of wines there pay $1 per gallon, except the sparkling wines, which appear to be charged at the rate of $1.50 per gallon—a sum which the Committee will observe is

largely in excess of that which I propose to charge. It is estimated that the revenue from that source will be $200,000 additional.

We also propose to add a duty of twenty cents per gallon to the articles of brandy, Geneva alcohol, rum, gin, and whisky—a proposal which I suppose will not greatly grieve my hon. friend from Oxford South (Mr. Bodwell). It is not easy to estimate very readily the result of such an imposition, but from the best information which I have been able to gather, I think we have reason to expect an additional revenue of $200,000 from this source.

In going over these proposals, I must say that I take what are properly called articles of luxury first. I propose an additional *ad valorem* duty on certain articles of luxury—silks, satins, velvets, and all manufactures thereof; gold, silver, or plated ware; fancy goods, hats, caps, and bonnets; jewellery, watches, and clocks. I believe that in all these cases a very fair argument in favour of increased taxation, whenever increased taxation is required, may be made out. I am inclined to think that there will be very little change in the present consumption of these articles. I have faith in the patriotism of my fair countrywomen, and I do not believe that in order to defeat the revenue they will purchase less goods than before. Consequently, I expect from this source an additional revenue of $400,000, progressively increasing as the prosperity of the country increases.

We also propose to ask the House to raise the duty of 15 per cent on all unenumerated articles to a duty of 16 2/3 per cent, which we have fixed upon, first, because so far as we can ascertain it will not seriously interfere with the trade of the country, and next as being exactly one-sixth of the value of the articles, and a convenient amount to be adopted. From that source I think a sum of no less than $500,000 will be derived, as this spreads over a very large number of articles.

The next article upon which we propose to put an additional duty is the article of cigars, on which we propose to raise the duty from 45 cents to 70 cents per pound, with a small corresponding addition, though not the same extent, in the Excise Department, which I think combined may be relied upon to give us $100,000 more. I am not as well versed as my hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) in the qualities of tobacco, but I think one hundred to the pound is about the proportion in the case of cigars of the quality most liable to duty, so that the total duty will only be about 3/4 of a cent per cigar.

The next duty which we are obliged to ask the Committee to grant us is a duty on tea—green, black, and Japan. That we propose to make specific and very low. We think the small duty we now propose is not likely to give rise to any great amount of smuggling. I think we may rely upon receiving a considerable amount from tea, and the amount I had estimated is not so large as it may produce. I deeply regret having again to impose a duty on tea, but on looking over the list of articles liable to duty, I do not see how it is possible to avoid it. From the source altogether—tea, coffee (green and roasted)—I expect to receive about $400,000 more. I propose, further, Mr. Chairman, to levy a small duty of five per cent on iron of the classes which the Committee will see enumerated in paragraph 5. The duty, I venture to say, will be found to be very evenly distributed over the whole Dominion, although I know that iron of that kind may be classed almost with raw material; but I do not think any serious injury to the trade can result, and the tax cannot much exceed 10 cents per hundred pounds. But this is a revenue which can be relied upon to be tolerably permanent, and, as I said, evenly distributed over the whole country. For the same reason we propose to add a very moderate tax, two and a half per cent upon iron, which already pays 5 per cent, as the Committee will see in article 9, an amount which, though small, will probably bring us about $100,000 more.

Now, Sir, in addition to this we have found that great abuses have been creeping into the collection of Customs in consequence of the privileges which have been granted in relation to the importation of the articles named in section 4 and 5. Paragraph 4 relates to locomotive engine frames and so on. We find that very considerable irregularities have crept in, and large amounts have had to be paid back on those articles by the Revenue Department. We cannot see any just or good grounds, when the country requires additional taxation, and when locomotives whole and entire pay 15 per cent, or as we now propose, 16 2/3 per cent, why these portions of locomotives should be admitted free. We propose that machinery for mills and factories not manufactured in the Dominion should also pay 10 per cent list. The privileges granted to this class have been constantly abused, and whatever the merits or demerits of the class, we shall be obliged to ask the Committee to expunge it from the free list and add it to the 10 per cent. The tax is a very light one, and a very large amount is annually expended in favour of that interest. As the interest on the money which we are expending for their benefit in a single year will largely exceed the amount of this tax, it is not unjust in us to extract some little revenue from that source.

From somewhat similar reasons, and also because of the abuse caused by the admission of certain classes of goods which have no better claim than those used in other trades to be admitted free of duty, we have decided to ask the Committee to amend schedule C, by striking out certain articles mentioned in the paragraph of 10 per cent from the free list, and subjecting them to an *ad valorem* duty. In the Excise Department we feel it is our duty to ask the Committee to increase the duty on spirits from 63 cents to 75 cents per gallon, which is probably as much as spirits can bear without causing illicit distillation. But I am inclined to think that we shall be able to collect the revenue without any particular loss. In connection with the specific duties which we propose, it is a fact that they really represent the rise in price of commodities which has occurred in the last ten or twelve years, that is to say, since the period when the taxes were first imposed. That argument has been often used here in reference to the increase of subsidies to members of our hon. House and in other ways; and if it is good in one case it is entitled to considerable respect in another. We also propose to ask the Committee to increase the tax on manufactured tobacco from 15 cents to 20 cents, and a similar alteration, as I have already mentioned, takes place in the Customs duty on the same article. These two last duties, we hope, will afford us $700,000 or $750,000, making up a total revenue of about $3,000,000, which

will be needed to meet our increased expenditure, and to provide for the large public works in which we are engaged.

There is one duty which I must apologise to the House for not having mentioned. It is the duty on sugar. We do not expect to obtain any considerable revenue from that source, and I am perfectly aware that it is one of the most difficult subjects in the whole sphere of taxation. Mr. Lowe and Mr. Gladstone, in the British Parliament, have both of them admitted the same thing. The Committee will observe that up to the present time we treat all sugars above No. 9 as being of the same value. We now propose to create two additional classes—one class equal to No. 13 and not over No. 16, upon which we propose to impose a duty of 1 1/4 cents in addition to the *ad valorem* duty. The other class we propose to create is all above No. 16, upon which we propose to impose an additional specific duty of 1 1/2 per cent, being an increase of 1/4 and 1/2 of a cent per pound over present rates. According to the best opinions I could obtain and according also to the opinions of the Customs authorities, the present duty is unfair in this respect, that the raw material is at present taxed at 50 per cent *ad valorem*, while there is on refined sugars only a duty of 40 to 47 per cent. We propose to rectify this unfairness.

The total amount expected to be derived from these new sources of revenue is about $3,000,000, which is about the amount we require over the $22,000,000 already estimated for in order to meet the enormous additional expense which we must expect during the next four or five years. It is necessary for us to make a fair and liberal provision, in view of our large and increasing liabilities. For the purpose of meeting the additional expenditure rendered necessary by public works, I rely partly upon the additional provision I have made, and partly upon a very moderate increase in the commerce and trade of the country. We also trust to be able to make large reductions in our annual expenditure on public works and on the collection of revenue for the same.

I may remark, Sir, in reference to some of those items, that the taxation upon them in other countries is greater than in Canada. On spirits in the United States the tariff amounts to about $2 per gallon, and upon this they expect to receive and do receive a considerable amount of revenue. I notice that in the colony of West Australia, which is in a somewhat similar position to ourselves, they tax all kinds of spirits imported into the colony at the rate of ten shillings sterling upon the gallon. That, I think, is also the rate in England. I desire to draw the attention of the Committee to that point, because it is not to be supposed we should propose to place such rates upon these articles unless we found them quite as highly taxed in other countries similarly situated. I think the result which we expect will be arrived at, always provided that the consumption of spirits in this country receives no sudden and unexpected check. I think on the whole our tariff will be found to compare favourably with that of other countries in proportion to our population. It is a matter of some interest to observe that our tariff is not quite one-half as much as that extracted by the Government of the United States, while nevertheless it yields as much per head as theirs does, as any hon. gentleman may see by examination. This is a point of great interest as bearing on the vexed question of the limit of productive taxation. As regards our general position, our taxation will still be largely under the amounts paid by the people of the United States and England.

Nevertheless, I do not desire to deny that it is a very grave matter to be called upon to impose this large additional amount. If the people of Canada desire, however, to carry out the projects they are committed to, these duties must be imposed. We wish to deal liberally with all, and to fulfil any obligations we may have entered into, but the extent of these burdens should be clearly understood, and also the extent of the sacrifices which we are called upon to make, whatever they may be. It must not be forgotten that we have to provide for a large amount of money in connection with the working of the Intercolonial Railway, and thus we are bound to take a larger margin than we would otherwise require. My own conjecture upon the subject is that it will cost a great deal more money than this railway will earn to keep it running after it is finished. (*Hear, hear.*)

With respect to the system of taxation we propose, I have not attempted, nor do I think that it would be possible, to impose it in such a way as that each separate and individual tax should be very nicely graduated, and bear evenly upon all classes of the people. I am afraid such a thing as this is impossible. I have tried to do it insofar as lay in my power, however, and if we are obliged to tax any particular class upon one particular article, I think the other duties have been so managed that it will be fully made up to that class by the manner in which other classes will be taxed upon the articles to be consumed by them, and on the whole I think the duties I propose will not bear unduly upon any class, though I do not pretend to say that the tariff, as it stands, is exactly the one which any one of us would like to bring down if we had the opportunity of commencing with a clear sheet. We desire, however, not to disturb existing interests more than we can help.

Now Mr. Chairman, I think I have put our scheme of taxation reasonably fully before the House. I desire to say as a general result, that although undue and unnecessary burdens have been forced upon us, I have no doubt that the country is able to bear them; but in order to complete these works which we have commenced, and which we are honour bound to carry out, it will be necessary for the people to forgo many valuable works of a more productive description. Many enterprises of a most useful character will have to be deferred for a considerable time.

My hon. friends behind me will have to be as self-denying as possible, and they will require not to press very hard upon us for such consideration as in other circumstances they might have fairly expected to be entitled to. I hope we will soon be able to work through this matter, and that in one or two years we shall be fairly over it. But we must have time. It is utterly impossible for us to go on in the way we have been going. It is necessary for us to pause and consider our position, and determine how we are to face the burdens which we have undertaken. Let us have no further rash promises. Let us count the cost before we enter into any engagements for the future. And now I have to say, if I am mistaken in my estimates, if the expenditure prove not to be so great as I have calculated, if I have estimated our resources less than their proper value, no man will rejoice more heartily than I to find myself mistaken. My business is to consider facts as facts, and not to

discount future good fortune till it has occurred. So far as I can see no reduction can be made except upon the two items I have referred to. It is just possible that some reduction can be made upon some others, but I am very much afraid that it will be small. An increase of duty is inevitable, and arises from circumstances over which this Government has no control.

I do not think that any greater increase of the tariff than we suggest now would be wise. I think we have gone to the limit beyond which it would be impossible to pass without resorting to direct taxation, and I think also we must make up our minds for some little time to witness a temporary pause in the increase in our ordinary sources of revenue. I should be very glad indeed to be shown that I am mistaken in the matter, but frankly and candidly, I am afraid I am not. The only charge which can be brought against the Government is that, in their desire to deal liberally with all parties with whom engagements have been made, they may have been a little too liberal. I do not think they are open to any other accusation in the matter. It may be that those very expenditure, may indirectly help our revenue; but I desire to say to the House that I think the country can bear the entire burden we have imposed upon it without any great inconvenience.

I do not think that much more taxation could be safely resorted to; nor do I think that we ought to be called upon to consider the question of raising any great amount by direct taxation. We will endeavour so to administer our resources as not to be under the necessity of coming before you again in this way asking for an increase of tariff, and I have good hopes, if this House consent to grant us the supplies, that this will really be the case. In conclusion, I can say that in making my statement I have endeavoured to keep nothing back from the House. (*Hear, hear.*) I have endeavoured to put the question honestly before you. (*Hear, hear.*) If I have made any mistake, as possibly I may, I shall be glad to know and to correct it. Sir, I now desire to lay in your hands the resolutions which I have just had the honour of placing before the House. He moved the first resolution.

The hon. gentleman took his seat amidst loud and prolonged cheers.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he did not intend to follow at any length the able speech of the Hon. Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright), but it would be impossible for him to refrain from referring to the injustice with which he thought the hon. gentleman had treated his predecessors. It would be unjust to the Administration, of which he had the honour to be a member, to allow the speech which had just been delivered by the Hon. Minister of Finance to go forth to the country without briefly calling the attention of the House to some of the points in which, he thought, the hon. gentleman had failed to do justice to his predecessors.

When the heat of party feeling had cooled in this country—when the time came for the impartial historian to record the history of the past ten years—those important years that had witnessed the inauguration of our great Dominion, of the great British nationality, and of this important portion of the continent of British North America—then justice would be done to one of the most eminent financiers, one of the ablest men—a man to whom Canada today stood more deeply indebted than to any other man in relation to the management of the finances of the country. In an important crisis of the financial history of this country, Hon. Sir Francis Hincks came back to devote his special talents for the finance to the wise and successful management of the finance of this country, and he placed the people of this country under a deep and lasting debt of gratitude to him. (*Hear, hear.*)

When what was called the silver nuisance was embarrassing trade and damaging the prosperity of the country, affecting the commercial interests of a large proportion of Canada to a very great extent, that nuisance was grappled with and it received his attention, and, although it had been grappled with in vain previously, it disappeared when touched with his financial wand. (*Laughter.*) Gentlemen might laugh as they please, but it would be difficult to estimate in money the amount that was due to that gentleman on account of the services he had rendered to the country. He had disposed of one of the most troublesome questions embarrassing the commercial affairs of this country.

Who was there that did not know that the important question of the banking institutions of the country was on a basis which was very embarrassing to financiers of all classes; who was there who did not know that in the scheme he had devised in relation to those banking institutions, while it relieved Government from responsibility, he settled that question on a sound and substantial basis that had been accepted by the great banking institutions and commercial men of the country, at the same time that it had paid into the coffers of Canada no less a sum than 100,000 pounds! He merely referred to these features in connection with that hon. gentleman's financial management of the country, to show that he was not deserving of the obloquy which the Hon. Minister of Finance has attempted to throw upon him tonight.

Sir Francis Hincks was succeeded by his hon. friend, Mr. Tilley, and although that gentleman was called upon at a moment's notice to assume the position of Finance Minister of the country, who was there who did not know that the evening he put the financial statement before the House, it drew forth the plaudits of gentlemen who were well qualified to criticise such a statement? The hon. gentleman who now held that office did criticise the financial statement with unwarranted severity. If they judged his hon. friend's (Hon. Sir Francis Hincks') financial ability by the records, they would show that he most accurately and most successfully gauged the future financial position of this country.

The present Minister of Finance held that Mr. Tilley was too sanguine as to the amount of money the tariff would yield; but what was the evidence of the papers he had laid on the table tonight? Instead of his hon. friend having been too sanguine, they showed he was not sanguine enough. Instead of the revenue being largely deficient, as the present Minister of Finance said it would be, the papers laid on the table tonight proved that the Hon. Mr. Tilley was correct, and that he erred, not on the side of being over sanguine, but, on the contrary, he was not sanguine enough.

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had listened with great patience and anxiety to the speech which had just been delivered before the

House, and he did not desire the impression to go forth to the people that was desired to be conveyed with regard to the manner in which the late Government had discharged the high duties which had been entrusted to them—that there should go forth to the country something more reliable and sound than those utterances.

He referred to papers which had been laid on the table of the House by the Government—the trade and navigation returns and public accounts. Those documents would give an emphatic and official contradiction to the references that had been made to the past administration of the public affairs of this country. They would be sufficient to render harmless and inoperative any of the strictures that had been offered in the House tonight, and those documents showed that the late Government had succeeded in carrying into effect the union of the British North American Provinces—that they had successfully created a Dominion out of a number of isolated provinces with antagonistic interests.

What was the financial condition of the Provinces at the time the Union took place? Who was there that did not know that there was scarcely one of the Provinces that formed a portion of the Dominion but was financially embarrassed? Who was there that did not know that Ontario and Quebec had an annual deficit, and that a gigantic debt had threatened to paralyse the country and imperil its credit?

The documents to which he had referred showed that such had been the administration of public affairs in this country that in the short period of five years the exports rose from $57,567,888 to $89,789,922—an increase of no less than $32,222,034 in that short period. There had been an increase in the imports during those five years of no less than $54,451,637. Some five years ago all that the tariff of the Dominion gave to the Government was $8,819,431, and yet today, taxes having been swept away that bore an onerous weight upon some portion of the population, with a largely decreased and lightened taxation, there had been an increase in the revenue in this respect of no less than $4,198,309. Yet the hon. gentleman would venture to lead the people of this country to suppose that its public affairs had been managed unwisely, and that the condition of this country was one to be deplored.

He had listened to the delivery of the Speech from the Throne with infinite pleasure, because from the beginning to the end he saw there was one continued tribute of respect and admiration from the present Government to the policy their predecessor had advocated and he thought that this was such a tribute that the late Administration deserved the title of Liberals as well as Conservatives.

There was a passage in the speech which he read with deep pain, and that was that the country was suffering from a commercial depression. Had the Hon. Finance Minister in his speech borne out that statement? The only industry he pretended was suffering the slightest depression was the agricultural interest, and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would ask the great consuming population of the country whether they thought the agricultural interest was suffering. (*Hear, hear.*) He thought they would give a decided response without any hesitation, that the agricultural interest at this moment was enjoying a condition of prosperity second to that of no agricultural interests in the world. That was the only interest the hon. gentleman ventured to say was suffering from depression.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON remarked that reference was made to the lumbering interest in the financial speech.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that reference had escaped him.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Hon. Minister of Finance had stated that the interest which, in its exporting powers, was much larger than the agricultural interest, was also depressed.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that those connected with the lumbering interest of this country might not be amassing fortunes with the celerity they had done for the past few years, but he considered that this industry could afford a certain amount of temporary depression.

He continued. He said the last Minister of Finance had estimated that the deficiency would be $250,000, and the actual deficiency was something over $80,000. This showed that his hon. friend, Mr. Tilley, instead of being sanguine as had been alleged against him, was too cautious. There was $1,316,000 already to meet any deficiency that might occur during the current year. If ever there was a Government which stood in a position to have their conduct criticised it was not the late Administration. What had they done?

Six years ago the people of the country paid about 12 1/4 per cent duty on the entire imports, and the late Minister of Finance had been able to show the House that, after five years of administration of affairs, the rate of taxation had been reduced from 12 1/4 per cent to less than 9 1/2 per cent. That was the financial condition of affairs, and that was the mode that the Government of Union and Progress had adopted. The late Government were prepared here and elsewhere to take upon themselves the entire responsibility of being the men who consolidated—he might say created in the first instance—this great Union, and who had extended it until it not only reached from the Atlantic, but embraced the gem of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Island of Prince Edward.

He was disappointed as he listened to the taunting remarks of the Hon. Minister of Finance towards Prince Edward Island. He trusted that, whatever Party was in power, such a policy would never be pursued in regard to that Island as would cause it to regret that it trusted to Canada. What had this Union done for old Canada? Contrasting our position then with that of the present day, he asked every member from Ontario and Quebec if this Union had not been attended with very great advantages, financially and politically.

The Hon. Minister of Finance had said that the actual outlay of the current year would be $24,000,000; but he had followed it with so many "ifs" that he had left the House in the dark. In the figures which the hon. gentleman had offered to the House, he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had failed to find any justification for the paragraph on the paper for the proposal of adding $3,000,000 to the taxation.

The House had heard a great deal about the vicious results of a Coalition Government. If ever there was a vicious Coalition, it was the present combination. He would mention, *en passant*, that when the Hon. Minister of Finance had withdrawn from his associates of twenty years, he left them on the avowed ground that he did it as a

Conservative. When two gentlemen who held different views and principles in relation to public affairs, for the sake of office or of denouncing a Party, joined together to form a Government, all that the hon. member prejudged as the result of such a combination must be expected. We had been told that a deputation of Protectionists had waited upon the Minister of Finance, and that he had said to them, not that he was a member of a Free Trade Administration, but he had the candour to admit that he himself was at one with them in their views as to Protection, although he could not pledge the Government.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that was not a correct report of that meeting. It had not been his habit to contradict newspaper reports.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that if ever there was an occasion on which a newspaper statement should have been contradicted, this was one. The *Montreal Herald* had, more than a month ago, stated in the most explicit manner that the tariff was going to be raised. If there was a proposal which the Government ought to have kept to themselves, it was the proposal to touch the tariff of the day in the slightest degree. When the Minister of Finance found that it was declared in the newspaper that he was with the Protectionists, he was bound for his own sake, as well as in consideration to the trade and business interests, to give such an important and such an authoritative statement the fullest contradictions. What more did we find? These gentlemen went next to the Premier. Did he tell them that he could have nothing to do with their policy? No. He told them he was a Free Trader, but "he was not going to knock his head against the wall."

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he delivered what he considered was a very good Free Trade speech.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the hon. gentleman should have contradicted the reports which had appeared in the newspapers, but he said that if he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) was mistaken, and he was bound to accept the statement of the Premier, that he was in a position to show the gentlemen who waited upon the Minister of Finance, the Premier left them with entirely the same sentiments as were reported in the newspapers, for, no doubt, if these gentlemen were not of that opinion they would have taken occasion to correct the newspaper reports. He was sure the House would acquit the late Government for having anything to do with the late elections. The late House have been quite willing to give the present Government a fair trial. Again what could the late Government have had to do with the double election about which the Hon. Minister of Finance had spoken? Could the Premier say that they had prompted him to do what he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) thought had never been done before—that was to run twelve Ministerial elections, and, before having warmed their seats, to spring on a general election?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I acquit you of this.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER wanted him to acquaint himself, after his boast that he had a majority of twenty-five in the late House. Nor was the late Government responsible for the extra session any more than the present. They had been quite prepared to go on without an extra session. Before deciding to extract from the toiling millions of Canada additional taxation, the Minister of Finance was bound to look fairly in the face the question if he could not by some other mode remedy what he considered the financial condition of the country.

With regard to the cost of the railways in the smaller Provinces, he showed that the Local Government had projected their railways. It was not with the hope of the receipts being above the expenditure, but that they might have the effect of stimulating trade and thus in another way add to the revenue of the country; and in this respect they had been productive of good results. The speech of the Hon. Minister of Finance had been such as to foresee the throwing-over of the Pacific Railway.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he could gather no other conclusion from that speech. Having united this country from ocean to ocean, he felt there was nothing more vitally important to make Canada a great Dominion than to create the line of union and intercourse that all history showed was fraught with such advantages to those countries who had adopted similar ones. The late Government had felt it their duty to grapple with this question. He deprecated the statement made by the Finance Minister that the route of the Pacific Railway was through a desert. The country on the route was very fertile. The late Government never proposed to expend $160,000,000 for the construction of that railway. Their estimate was $30,000,000, and the responsibility for that policy not being carried out rested with the hon. gentleman opposite, and when that policy was presented to the House we found that the ablest financiers and the wealthiest men in Ontario and Quebec were contending with one another to get the contract, and the most gigantic capitalist in England was ready to take hold of it.

There was a gentleman sitting in the House who knew that when the contractors were in England a combination of the Northern Pacific and the Grand Trunk Railway Companies hounded them from door to door in order to overthrow the Government of Canada, and they had succeeded; and on their shoulders rested the responsibility of having defeated this policy, which had been unanimously accepted by the House.

Now the Hon. Premier, in making his first ministerial speech, had pledged himself to build the Pacific upon the credit, and at the risk of, the Treasury of the Dominion. He might have supposed from the speech of the Finance Minister tonight that the Premier had been misrepresented in the report of that speech, were it not for the telegram which he had sent to British Columbia. We had the premier propounding a policy, and the Finance Minister getting up in his place and calling that policy ludicrous. The hon. gentleman had said that he was justified in saying that we could not look for an increase. Suppose that this attempt to break down the late Ministry had failed; suppose the Pacific Railway scheme had been successful—did the hon. gentlemen think that the late Government had not a right to expect that the policy which they had pursued up to that hour would have been successful—a policy which inspired confidence to bring foreign capital and millions of people into the country?

He had listened with pain to that part of the speech of the hon. gentleman in which he said the route of the Pacific was through a

desert. That speech was calculated to discredit Canada in the eyes of the world, and to strike down the value of security of Canada in the money market in England. The hon. gentleman had stated, and in this he was correct, that the expenditure for public works chargeable to income was under the control of the Government. He believed that the policy of expending money for the construction of valuable public works was a wise one, but it came with a bad grace for those who had denounced the late Government for this, to ask $3,723,000 instead of $2,450,000, that had been estimated by Mr. Tilley would be required. He would have gone more fully into the estimates of the hon. gentleman in regard to income if he had not heard him before, but he knew that that hon. gentleman had never delivered a speech in this House since touching the income and trade of this country without being millions astray, and having underestimated the resources of the people of this country.

He had no objections to the hon. gentleman raising the duty on liquors, but he doubted that a larger duty could be levied without causing a large illicit distillation and a large amount of smuggling; but passing on, he came to what were articles of prime necessity for the poor, and if ever a policy commended itself to the people, it was the policy of reducing the duty on tea and coffee. There were no articles of human consumption which were more required by the poor, and he regretted to see that these were to be taxed at a higher rate. He was also sorry to find that the policy of the last Administration with a view to encouraging manufacturers was likely to be reversed.

He came now to another matter, to which he was bound to take still great exception, and that was the imposition of a tax upon ship building at the time when Canada was suffering most for revenue. The policy of the late Government had been to take the tax off everything that was needed for the construction of ships, and the result had been fraught with a degree of advantage that no man would overestimate, and now it appeared that that policy was at a single blow to be struck down. He had no hesitation in saying that this tariff would strike a dismay into the shipyards of the Dominion. If the hon. gentleman had searched his tariff from end to end he could not have selected one tax which would be more detrimental to the country.

Again with regard to the additional tax on sugar, there was hardly an article, with the exception of the one mentioned, that would not better bear taxation than this. He did take exception to the necessity for an increased taxation, and the hon. gentleman, having come to a conclusion that increased taxation was necessary, should be cautious as to the mode in which he proposed to levy that increased taxation upon the people of this country. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) doubted whether that policy would compare favourably with that of the hon. gentleman who had proceeded him.

After a few further words, in the course of which he congratulated the Finance Minister on the singular ability with which he had inserted the end of the protectionist wedge, the hon. gentleman resumed his seat.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in reply to the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), said that Hon. Sir Francis Hincks had just escaped from the House in time to avoid hearing a most complete condemnation of his financial policy. If the hon. gentleman told them that there was no depression in the commercial circles of the country, he showed that he was not acquainted with his subject. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) reminded him of the great stagnation in the lumber trade, and contended that the fact of the manufacturers of the country sending deputations asking for more protection was an evidence of commercial depression. He considered it extraordinarily audacious on the part of the hon. gentleman to condemn this Government for increasing taxation in order to make up the deficiency which had resulted from the mismanagement of the hon. gentleman's Government.

With reference to the tax of five per cent on materials used in ship building he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) held that the impost was not an onerous one, particularly when the consideration which that industry received was taken into account. There were ship builders present in this House, and some of them had, in talking to him, advised the putting of a tax on the materials used in this business as something which was only fair. With reference to the duty on sugar, he pointed out that the lower grades were made to pay 50 per cent, while the higher grades were only taxed 40 per cent.

Adverting to the remarks of the hon. member for Cumberland with reference to the Pacific Railway, he asked why the late Government had not carried out their scheme if it was a good one, for it had a majority. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) held that the reason the scheme was not carried out was that it was not practicable. The hon. gentleman had alleged that someone representing the Northern Pacific, and some other man, had been the means of preventing the borrowing of money in London. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) thought the scheme must have been what those persons were said to have pronounced it—a bogus one, or it would not have been killed by them. He assured his hon. friend that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to develop our great Western territories by the construction of such a railway, but nothing would tempt him into entering into any arrangement to build it when he had not in his heart the deliberate intention of carrying it out. (*Hear, hear.*) To relieve his hon. friend from the fear he seemed to have, that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) and the Finance Minister differed in their policy with regard to finance, he would inform him that they arranged all that long ago.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that as the hour was late the resolutions should be allowed to pass and that any further discussion should be deferred until a later stage.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked the Minister of Finance if he would furnish him with a statement showing the Customs receipts for the last ten days, also the receipts for the corresponding ten days of 1872, of 1873 and of 1873-1874. He said that from the course the discussion had taken today, it was important they should have this information.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said of course persons had, in anticipation of an increase in the tariff, been going during the past ten days to the Customs Houses and taking their goods out of bond, and it was to be expected that the receipts would be swollen for the time.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he might have some difficulty in getting the information for this year, but he would endeavour to get it.

Mr. DOMVILLE asked the Prime Minister to supply him with a return of the Customs duties collected at the port of St. John, New Brunswick, during the month of March, 1872, 1873 and 1874.

The returns were severally adopted and the Committee rose, reported and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 15, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions were presented, praying for the passing of a prohibitory liquor law. Several petitions were also presented praying for changes in the tariff, and several for Private Bills and Acts of incorporation.

Mr. McGREGOR presented a petition for reforms in favour of the Wyandotte Indians in the county of Essex.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER read a message from the Senate, stating that that body had appointed a committee of eleven members on the subject of a prohibitory liquor law, and requesting the Commons to appoint a number of members to form a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report on the before-mentioned subject.

* * *

REPORT PRESENTED

Mr. PATERSON presented the first report of the Committee on the condition of the Six Nation Indians in Brant and Haldimand, requesting a reduction of the quorum to five.

The report was adopted.

* * *

BANKING AND COMMERCE

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the name of Hon. Mr. Abbott, accidentally omitted, be added to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.—Carried.

* * *

RAILWAYS

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) moved that the name of Mr. Norris be added to the Committee on Railways, Canals, etc.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL moved that Mr. Domville's (King's, New Brunswick) name be added to the same Committee.—Carried.

* * *

PROHIBITION

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved that the names of Messrs. Rochester, Dymond, Church and Charlton be added to the Committee on Prohibition.—Carried.

* * *

BILL INTRODUCED

The following Bill was introduced:—

Mr. MOSS—to make further provision for the management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada.

* * *

HALF-BREED GRANTS

Mr. SCHULTZ enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to make grants of land to the half-breeds and heads of families, and old settlers in Manitoba; and whether Government had decided to grant the present holders the hay lands in Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said that Government had taken the matter into consideration, and already a notice was upon the paper embodying their views upon the question.

* * *

ST. VINCENT AND WINNIPEG RAILWAY

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) enquired whether it is the intention of Government to commence the building of the railway between St. Vincent and Winnipeg during the present year.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said such was not the intention of Government.

* * *

EMIGRATION TO MANITOBA

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) enquired whether any communication has been made with the Washington Government with a view to facilitating the bonding of the property of emigrants passing through the United States to Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there had been no such correspondence, except the ordinary correspondence with regard to customs.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. DOMVILLE inquired whether Government have taken any steps to guard the property of persons living on the line of road between St. John, New Brunswick, and Shediac, New Brunswick, from being destroyed by fire by the Intercolonial Railway locomotives.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not aware of any possible means Government had in their power for that purpose, and therefore they had taken no steps in that direction.

* * *

RAILWAY FENCES

Mr. DOMVILLE enquired whether it is the intention of Government to replace the fences along the line of railroad between St. John, New Brunswick, and Shediac, which are now in a most dilapidated state from fire and decay.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said contracts had been given out for the erection of the fences.

Mr. DOMVILLE next enquired whether it is the intention of Government for the future, to keep the fences on the Intercolonial Railway between St. John, New Brunswick, and Shediac in repair, or if they propose compelling the farmers and others to do so.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government would not think of compelling the farmers to do it, even if they had the power, which they had not; but the Government received some propositions from farmers, and they entertained a plan for enabling farmers to keep their own fences by paying them a certain rate. He could not actually say if they could carry that out, but they would endeavour to do so if the farmers undertook the work.

* * *

POST OFFICE ORDERS

Mr. LANDERKIN enquired if the Government intends reducing the percentage now charged on Post Office money orders.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said it was not the intention of the Government to do so.

* * *

MARITIME RAILWAYS

Mr. PALMER enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to sell or lease any and what portion of the Government railways in the Maritime Provinces, and if so, whether it is the intention to offer the same at public competition.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had not considered the propriety of either selling or leasing any of these roads at present. (*Hear, hear.*) He had not heard of any proposition being made to the Government on the subject. The hon. gentleman was perhaps not aware that a portion of these roads was given to another railway company by Order in Council in October last, which Order had to be ratified by Parliament.

Mr. PALMER said he put the question in consequence of a rumour he had heard that it was the intention of the Government to lease them. He thought the answer of the Premier very satisfactory.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the Government had the matter under consideration.

* * *

WELLAND CANAL PROTECTION

Mr. McCALLUM asked whether it is the intention of the Government to establish a police force on the line of the new works on the Welland Canal.

Hon. Mr. DORION said there was an Act which enabled the Government to declare that any position of country where public works were carried on, required protection. The Government had nothing more to do than to declare that the Act should be applicable to certain public works, and then it was for the local Government to provide the necessary force to maintain peace and order. As yet the Government had not been required to put this Act in force in regard to the work referred to, although some correspondence had taken place between the Dominion and Ontario Governments on the subject.

* * *

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved for the appointment of a Committee to act with the Committee of the Senate to consider and report upon petitions praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that the motion should be allowed to stand over until tomorrow.

The suggestion was agreed to.

* * *

CUSTOMS RETURNS

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) brought down the return of Customs collected for the month of March.

* * *

EXPULSION OF LOUIS RIEL

The order of the day being called,

Mr. BOWELL rose. He said with the consent of the Government, and as a question of privilege, he would move the motion of which he had given notice, with reference to the seat of the member for Provencher (Louis Riel). Before doing so, however, he desired to have it distinctly understood that in a matter of such importance as this, and considering the crime of which that member stood charged, he desired as an individual, as he believed it was the desire of every member of the House, that they should have a question of so much magnitude raised altogether beyond question of nationality or of religion. He regretted exceedingly that the discussions upon this subject had narrowed down into these questions.

He looked upon this question as one affecting a British subject. The man put to death in the Northwest was a British subject and he was foully murdered while in defence of the Crown and the country. This was the light in which he desired to consider this matter—altogether apart from the religion or nationality of the member for Provencher. He desired also to state that when he asked the Government a few days ago whether they intended, in view of the facts that had been elicited at the bar of the House, to take action in the matter on that occasion, he had no desire to relieve himself of any responsibility he had assumed, but, looking over English precedents, he was of opinion, judging from what had been done in the Imperial Parliament, that after the facts had been elicited at the bar of the House, which facts showed that the man had been guilty of acts which disqualified him from associating with gentlemen, and which disqualified him from holding a seat in this House, it was the bounden duty of the Government to take the first opportunity to relieve the House from the odium attached to it by such a member continuing to have a seat there.

He brought this motion up purposely when the address had been passed, with the full knowledge that in doing so he should not in any way be embarrassing any member of the Government. Had he desired to place the Government and their supporters in that position he might have made the motion on the motion to go into Committee of Supply.

The House would very well remember the first time this question came before it. It was on the motion of Mr. McDougall (Lanark North), seconded by himself, on the 10th April 1871. At that time the matter was fully discussed, and very strong opinions were expressed upon the occasion. The next motion moved was that made by the hon. member for Brant South (Hon. Mr. Wood), on May 12, 1871, on the motion to go into Committee of Supply. This motion was moved as a vote of want of confidence in the Government, and he did not hesitate to condemn the Government for not taking steps he thought they should have taken in the matter.

He made this explanation in order that the gentlemen who occupy seats in this House at the present time, and who did not occupy seats during the last session, might not be led astray by the opinions that had been expressed and the charges that had been made, that he had been actuated by the desire to embarrass the gentlemen who controlled the destinies of the country. He contended that it was the duty of the Premier, or those with whom he was associated, to have brought this matter before the House, and his reason for coming to that conclusion was the course they had pursued during the last three or four years. He found they had expressed a strong desire to bring Riel to justice, and they had declared that it was the duty of the Government to take the initiative in this matter.

He (Mr. Bowell) thought that the present Government should pursue the same course in office as they had pursued when in Opposition, and more particularly did he come to that conclusion when he read the speech of the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) who declared that the policy of the Government would be that which they had advocated in Opposition. He found in another portion of the speech that that gentleman declared he desired to be consistent in his political career, and he expected his opponents to be consistent also. He thought from these declarations to the electors at his nomination that if he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) desired to carry out the policy he had advocated he would have taken the first opportunity of ridding the House of an unworthy member. He thought the leader of the Government would have taken such steps as he desired should have been taken by his predecessors to bring Riel to justice.

He found that the Hon. Minister on April 4, 1870, expressed opinions like the following:—

"We have most painful accounts in the public newspapers of an atrocious murder being committed by men—ruffians, I might say, (*Hear, hear*) who are at the head of forces there that call for most extraordinary exertions on the part of our Government (*Hear, hear*), and in order to know exactly what the House and country ought to do the Government, I think, are bound to place in possession of this House all the information they have with regard to that murder. We know that other persons were held prisoners there besides the unfortunate gentleman who was murdered; what security have we in this country that other of our fellow subjects shall not be murdered as well as poor Scott. I have simply to express the hope that the facts will be laid fully before the House. The time is now passed for hiding anything connected with these people—(*Hear, hear*)—and when they have resorted to the outrage of murdering our fellow-subjects, there should be no further squabbles on the part of the people of this country in the matter."

Mr. BOWELL, continuing, said there were the sentiments which he (Mr. Bowell) not only echoed then, but which he echoed now. On January 5, 1872, the same hon. gentleman said that during the last election he had condemned the late Government for their utter want of sympathy with any movement to bring the murderers to justice. The present Government were prepared to take what steps they could to bring the murderers of Scott to justice.

That declaration was made in reference to the Local Legislature of the Province of Ontario, of which the hon. member (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was then Treasurer. He did carry out that declaration by placing in the estimates the sum of $5,000 as a reward for the arrest of the murderers of Scott, and in making his budget speech when he came to the portion referring to the $5,000, Mr. Cameron (Huron South) said, "25,000 you ought to have made it". Hon. Mr. Mackenzie then said: "If the hon. gentleman thinks we ought to offer $25,000 I can only express my regret that he did not propose to offer that sum when he was in a position to do so. The hon. gentleman not only declined to propose a reward, but to the last moment declined to even record detestation of the deed and his sympathy for the relatives of the murdered man."

He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) further said: "The House, with only one dissenting voice, has expressed a resolution of sympathy, and we now propose to follow up that expression by the direct offer of this reward in order to secure the apprehension of those who were guilty of that outrage. I believe that this will accomplish the desired result, and I believe that the result will be that the man who acted in

this manner shall never again have the honour of shaking hands with the representative of the Crown; that he will be either apprehended and brought to justice, or be compelled to hide from the light of the day his coward face and crime stained hands." This was strong language he (Mr. Bowell) admitted, but not stronger than circumstances justified.

He made these quotations to show what was the opinion of the Premier at that time and that was one reason why he thought that the moment the hon. gentleman assumed the reins of Government he would have attempted to carry out the declarations he had made. The opinions expressed by the Premier were not stronger than those of the hon. gentleman who sat immediately behind him—a gentleman who was one of his colleagues in the Ontario Government. That gentleman (Hon. Mr. Blake), when he occupied a seat in the Ontario Legislature, made the following motion:

"That the cold-blooded murder for his outspoken loyalty to the Queen, of Thomas Scott, lately a resident of this Province and an emigrant thence to the Northwest, has impressed this House with a deep feeling of sorrow and indignation; and, in the opinion of the House, every effort should be made to bring to trial the perpetrators of this great crime, who as yet go unwhipt of justice."

This also he (Mr. Bowell) only referred to in order to justify himself in asking the Government whether they intended to take any action in the matter. He might mention that the vote for the $5,000 for the reward was passed almost unanimously, and that two of the hon. gentlemen in the Cabinet were also members of that Cabinet and were responsible for the position then taken. He considered that they would have taken steps to carry out the opinions then expressed.

The hon. member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake) made a speech in the Ontario Legislature in which he made the following observations—"Sir,—I say that unless the Province speaks out we may yet undergo the humiliation and disgrace of seeing the murderer of one of our people elected to the Parliament of Canada, and representatives from Ontario sitting in Council on the affairs of the country with one guilty of murder. I warn this House and this Province that unless we act in this matter the murderer will go unpunished. To adopt the amendment will be to affirm that we are not to interfere, although this barbarous murder has been committed; that the men of Ontario are not to interfere, although the blood of one of their number had been spilled; that they are not to do their best, be it great or small, in order that that blood shall be avenged."

The excitement upon this subject was increased in Ontario by the fact that speeches were made in all sections of the Province.

At Bowmanville the hon. gentleman said with reference to the Scott murder, "The murdered man was an emigrant from our Province. He was one of ourselves, and I am not yet going to abandon the view that the representatives of the people of this Province have such a special concern and interest in the life of the meanest of the men whom the Province has called its own, as to render it a fit and appropriate duty for those representatives to use every exertion to procure justice to be done, when that life has been foully taken—that he has been murdered for loyalty to his Queen and country."

At a later period some little difficulties presented themselves, no doubt, to the hon. gentleman, and, when they had been in power for some little time in Ontario, the hon. gentleman could make speeches without referring to the Scott murder until the elections called his attention to the fact, and then he gave his opinion as freely as on former occasions. When his attention was called to the murder at the nomination of Mr. Crooks, who had then been appointed to some office in the Ontario Government, he said, "With regard to the Scott murder they had had a good deal of talking, and now they were going to have some action. (*Cheers.*) It was time some steps were taken."

At the election for Toronto West, when he was again called upon to allude to that question, he said he had no objection to telling them about Riel. He had always said that the murderer of Scott should receive a fair trial before a jury of his countrymen, and it was a disgrace to this country that he and his confederates were not tried long ago. He (Mr. Bowell) fully concurred in all the opinion expressed by the hon. gentleman. It was well known that the Attorney General of Ontario (Oliver Mowat) was brought from the Bench to take the lead of the Party. He found that the following telegram was sent from Collingwood to that gentleman on the 1st November last year. It ran:

"Can I arrest Riel without a warrant? Is the reward still good? James Thompson, Chief Constable."

At that time he had reason to believe that the chief constable had good reason to know Riel was in Collingwood going Northwest upon the steamer. Whether that was so or not he could not state positively.

Hon. M. CAUCHON: He was not there.

Mr. BOWELL: The hon. gentleman says Riel was not there, and he had no doubt the hon. gentleman knew more about Riel's whereabouts than he (Mr. Bowell) possibly could. If he would only tell the country where he was to be found, he would satisfy a great many people of the Dominion.

The answer sent by Mr. Mowat, after the departure of the steamer, was as follows:

"Warrant seems necessary. Proclamation offering reward has not been revoked. Why do you enquire? Riel, being now an M.P., the Ottawa authorities must deal with the case."

"J.G. Scott, for the Attorney General Rossin House, Nov. 3, 1873."

That was the opinion of the Attorney General for Ontario, whose legal knowledge ought to be respected. When he (Mr. Bowell) found this telegram had been sent to the constable, he thought it would be excusable for him to ask if the Government intended to take any action in the matter. He had now, he thought, justified the position he had assumed the other night in asking the Premier and the Government whether they intended to take any steps in connection with the matter.

Having done so, he proposed very briefly to refer to the course which had been pursued in the English Parliament in reference to questions which were brought before it affecting the seat of any member of the Commons. He found the right to expel an unworthy member had existed for centuries, and he would quote a few precedents of the English House of Commons to show that the course he had pursued was not an unprecedented one. As early as 1580 they found Mr. Hall, member for London, was expelled for publishing a book upon certain members. He was not prepared to say whether so stringent a course should be pursued now.

In 1606 Sir E. Piggott, member from Buckinghamshire, was expelled for using words of scandal and obloquy. In 1670 Mr. Shepard was expelled for using profane language in debate. In 1620 Sir John Leeds, having been committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, made his escape. It was determined by the House that, "having by his flight acknowledged his guilt, he is expelled from the House of Commons." Sir Edmund Sawyer was expelled for tampering with a witness before the House in 1667. Mr. Ashburn Hall was expelled for receiving 500 pounds for promoting the business of a French merchant, in 1668. Mr. Burchell was expelled for not appearing upon an order of the House to explain why he did not follow the Dutch fleet after the battle of Lowestoffe in 1665. In 1710 a Mr. Thos. Ridge was expelled for dealing in a beer contract.

There were a number of other precedents at a later date, from 1720 to 1832, showing that the House of Commons exercised the right. In 1812 Mr. Hunt was expelled for having misappropriated public funds, though he was absent when the charge was made. In 1812 Mr. Walsh was indicted for felony, and a true bill was found. This was a precedent "on all fours" with the case before the House. The above bill was found, but the indictment was subsequently quashed. Still, from the facts which transpired it was considered that the expulsion was justified, and he was expelled. In June, 1716, John Carney was expelled for treason. He was simply charged with having been seen in arms against the Crown and the Attorney General was instructed to prosecute him for high treason.

The last precedent he would refer to was Sadlier, who was brought up in 1857 and who was expelled for fraud in connection with a Tipperary bank. Mr. Sadlier had fled before a warrant could be served upon him. These facts he would establish before the House and during the discussion. The previous question was moved and carried. The discussion was postponed on the distinct promise of Lord Palmerston that Sadlier should not be allowed to accept the Chiltern Hundreds.

In this connection he might say with regard to Riel and his associates that if an amnesty had been granted the House might still expel him from the House. Mr. Whiteside had laid it down that if Her Majesty were graciously pleased to pardon a man who had behaved unworthily, the House might still persist in expelling him. So if Riel had been pardoned for the crime with which he was charged the House would still have the power, if his conduct had been such as to disqualify him from associating with gentlemen, to carry out the resolution and expel him.

But what was the position of the member for Provencher (Louis Riel) at the present moment? It would be useless for him to detail the crime with which he was charged, and we need not say that the strong language given utterance to by the present Premier and the hon. member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake) fully confirmed all the facts. The evidence taken at the preliminary examination showed that the crime was unparalleled in the history of this or any other country. No man could read the letters of Mr. John Bruce, who was formerly President in the provisional government, without a shudder, and without being fully convinced that every step that could be possibly taken should be taken in order to bring Riel to justice, and more particularly to expel him from the House, where, if he took his seat, the other members necessarily must associate with him.

He was convinced that if the Committee appointed to inquire into the matter were permitted to make a thorough investigation they would not only show that Riel was not only the murderer of Scott, but that he was also behind the scenes in the Fenian invasion which took place at Manitoba. It was contended the offense he had committed at the time of the rebellion should be condoned for the pretended services he offered on the occasion of the Fenian raid. There were affidavits to show that Riel was desirous of assisting O'Donoghue, but the more thoughtful of his friends said he would certainly be captured if he took that course; and suggested that he should show loyalty to the Government and offer his services to drive the Fenians out of the Province.

This could be substantiated on enquiry into all matters connected with the Northwest troubles, and would be, if the Royal Commission asked for were granted. It had been proved that an indictment had been laid before the Grand Jury, and that a true bill had been rendered, the proof of this being the production of the warrant itself as well as the statement of Attorney General Clarke. It had been evidence that the police officer had made every effort to arrest Riel, and that in this city warrants to arrest him had been issued had been proven by the detective and policeman, McVeity.

It was also a fact that Riel had been ordered to attend in his place but had failed to do so, and, according to the principles laid down in the Imperial Parliament, there was prima facie evidence of his guilt. It had also been contended by such authorities as Napier, May and Fitzgerald that if a man who was under a charge was ordered to appear before the House failed to do so, it gave prima facie evidence of guilt.

He need not go at greater length into the question; but he thought the motion which he had to propose, seconded by Mr. Schultz (Lisgar), should be sustained by the House. Riel's guilt had not only been proved, but he had disobeyed the orders of the House, and had proved himself to be a fugitive from justice, from the fact that he had evaded the law. If he had not been guilty he should have given himself up to the authorities, have stood his trial, and, of course, have been acquitted. The fact that he had not done so was proof that he was not only guilty, but had treated the House with contempt and should therefore be expelled.

Looking at the whole question from the inception in 1869, he thought no man could be otherwise of opinion than that the sooner this unfortunate matter was settled the better would it be for the peace of the whole country. It was time that the House should show a determination to put its foot upon any further attempt at agitation. He considered that it was the duty of the Government to take the same steps to bring this offender to justice that they had loudly advocated when they did not occupy seats upon the Treasury benches. The events of the last fifteen days were well known to the members of the House, and if the Government had placed a warrant in the detectives' hands, and he believed that there was no more energetic official in the Dominion than the Chief of the Government force here, Riel would have by this time been on his way to Manitoba, or to some competent place having jurisdiction, to stand his trial.

He (Mr. Bowell) had not made his motion to condemn the present Government, but to urge them on to do what they should have done long ago, and if they did so, they would have his approval and support in doing so. He desired to be consistent, and wished to see the Government acting with the same consistency.

He would, therefore, move, seconded by Mr. Schultz, "That Louis Riel, member of this House for the electoral district of Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, having been charged with murder, and a bill of indictment for the said offense having been found against him, and warrants issued for his apprehension, and the said Louis Riel having fled from justice and having failed to obey an order of this House that he should attend in his place on Thursday, the 9th day of April, 1874, be expelled from this House." (*Cries of "Carried", "Lost, Lost".*)

The SPEAKER having said that he thought the ayes had it, a division was called for. Before, however, a vote was taken.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that he rose for the purpose of proposing the amendment which he had in his hand. He did not intend to enter into the discussion of the question at length. All the members knew what were his sentiments in relation to the state of feeling which at present existed, and he did not propose to add one word which could possibly provoke feeling. The business of the House was to do what it could to allay the unfortunate feelings which existed in respect to the subject matter of the motion.

The motion was perhaps a little too precipitate, and he should, therefore, move in amendment to it "That inasmuch as the crime of which Louis Riel is accused was connected with, and arose out of, the civil commotion which existed in the Northwest in the autumn of 1869 and the early spring of 1870, and as a Select Committee of this House has been appointed to enquire into the causes of those troubles and the promise of an amnesty, it is expedient to postpone the motion until that Committee shall have reported."

The amendment having been seconded by **Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South)**,

Mr. MOUSSEAU proposed, seconded by **Mr. BABY**, the following:—

1. That the interests of the Dominion of Canada require that there should be tranquillity and content in the various Provinces of this confederation.

2. That in consequence of the disturbances that had occurred in the Province of Manitoba before its reception into the Dominion, and the actual violence committed, there exists in that Province a sense of uneasiness and unquiet that would be dissipated and give place to a general feeling of satisfaction if Her Most Gracious Majesty would exercise her royal prerogative and grant a full and complete pardon or amnesty for all acts, crimes, and offenses that may have been committed in the Province of Manitoba during such disturbances.

3. That an humble address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty, praying Her Majesty to exercise her royal prerogative and grant such pardon or amnesty.

In speaking to his motion, **Mr. MOUSSEAU** quoted at length from Archbishop Taché's pamphlet, and set forth that the Province was seized upon by Canada without the will of the people; that at the end of the rule of the Hudson Bay Company her people had formed a Provisional Government, under Louis Riel, for the protection of their rights and privileges, Riel being at the time the sole executive of the district. He quoted from Earl Granville's despatches, maintaining that the British Government had recognized this Provisional Government, and, having entered into negotiations with them, the very fact of these negotiations implied the granting of an amnesty.

He spoke of the personal character of Louis Riel as irreproachable, urging from this that whatever he had done was in the interest and for the protection of the lives and property of the people. He contended that Canada had committed a crime against the laws of nations in possessing herself of Manitoba, as she had done through Mr. McDougall. She had ignored the rights of the Métis, and was, in fact, the prime cause and instigator of all the trouble.

Mr. BABY, who had seconded the amendment, said the motion required careful consideration, and must be taken into account without any idea of religion or nationality. The half-breeds had felt that their rights should be recognized, and finding that their rights were not recognized they felt bound to take steps to secure these rights. The Imperial Government had recognized all that had been done by the Dominion authorities, and had admitted that the half-breeds had grievances, and had done what they had a perfect right to do. The troops were sent to the Northwest, not to take possession of the country, but as a sort of police. This could be seen by a debate in the House of Lords on the 4th of July, 1870, after the unfortunate event which they all deplored which took place on the 4th of March, 1870.

He held that they did not say, that they should not say, that Riel was the murderer of Scott. Riel was only the President of the Council appointed by the people of the Northwest Territory, at the time of the disturbances. It was a Commission appointed by this Council which tried Scott, and it was by order of this Commission that the sentence which was passed upon him was carried out. He contended that if the men who killed Scott were to be punished they should in accordance with law also punish those who were present, and the members of the court martial which tried Scott. He thought that this was the view the House should take of the question if they looked at it without regard to the race or religion of the persons concerned.

Mr. ROCHESTER endorsed what had been said by the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), and then proceeded to

trace up the case as it had come to us through the papers. The would-be President, the red-handed murderer Riel, had not, according to his own statement, killed Scott to meet the requirements of justice, but, as he himself had said, to strike terror into the heart of the Dominion. Scott was selected as the victim because he had always been loyal to his Queen and country; and because he was a Protestant and an Orangeman he must be sacrificed. (*Hisses.*)

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) rose to a point of order. The hon. gentleman was alluding to matters to which none of the motions referred.

The SPEAKER said it was very difficult in dealing with a question like this, to state just what were the limits of order in discussion, and therefore he would allow the hon. gentleman to go on.

Mr. ROCHESTER contended that he was but speaking to the question before the House, and in all probability before he got through he should have to trample not only on the corns of Mr. Riel, but on those of the hon. member for Marquette. He here detailed the circumstances of the execution as given by Mr. Bruce, the mere recital of which almost froze the blood within his veins, and said that he was glad to know there were men within this House who would not suffer such a red-handed villain as Riel to sit among them; and the question of an amnesty to the perpetrator of such acts of brutality could not for a moment be tolerated by this House.

He reviewed the evidence of the Rev. Mr. Young, the Wesleyan minister, and said that, if the Royal Commission of which the hon. member for Lisgar had given notice, were appointed, of which he highly approved, it might yet be discovered that the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) had more to do with the appointment of President Riel than most people have supposed.

Mr. ROCHESTER was still speaking when the House rose.

AFTER RECESS

THE AMNESTY QUESTION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table papers, in reference to the difficulties in the Northwest Territory in 1869-70, correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Government of Manitoba and the Imperial Government and all other correspondence having reference to the amnesty.

On **Mr. ROCHESTER** rising to resume his speech,

Mr. YOUNG rose to a question of privilege. He saw by the notice paper that private bills had precedence for the first hour after recess.

The SPEAKER said the question before the House was one of privilege, and therefore had precedence.

* * *

EXPULSION OF LOUIS RIEL

Mr. ROCHESTER went on to express himself in favour of a Royal Commission to inquire into the Northwest troubles, and if Dame Rumour spoke the truth, and she often did, the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith), at present Chairman of the Northwest Committee, would be in a far better position as a witness in the case, he having been comfortably ensconced in Fort Garry while the poor unfortunate Scott was led out from the same post to execution.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON asked if the member for Selkirk was on his trial. He understood the question to be whether Mr. Riel should be expelled from this House or not. (*Hear, hear.*)

The SPEAKER said the debate was on the motion for an amnesty, and that opened up the whole question. His impression was that the hon. member had travelled a little beyond the question.

Mr. ROCHESTER proceeded to contend that a Commission should be granted which could examine witnesses on oath. If it were, he believed it would be shown that there was a power behind the scene that was more to blame and more deserving of punishment than the man about whom so much had been talked. He considered that the Committee was nothing more than a sham.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE rose to a point of order. It was out of order for a member to state that a Committee of this House was a sham.

The SPEAKER thought the hon. member was out of order. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. ROCHESTER resumed. He said that there were numbers of witnesses who could be brought down to prove the facts, the present Committee of Enquiry being a sham. (*Order.*) He believed that it could be proved that there was "a power behind" who was far more guilty that Riel, who had only been used as the cat by the monkey to pull the nuts out of the fire. He regretted that the French Canadians had taken the matter up in such a spirit of nationality, and wondered all the more that they should take Riel up in such a manner, who was more than half a Scotsman. He did not care to what nationality Riel belonged; all he wanted to see was justice done between man and man. He regretted that the Government had not acted in this matter as they should have done—as their previous promises had led him to expect. Indeed he had heard that Riel had for days and days together been harboured within these buildings. He hoped that a Commission would be appointed to enquire into the whole subject.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON commented upon the gravity of this matter, which was not a Ministerial one and was embarrassing to men of all sides, of all nationalities, and of all creeds. He advised the hon. mover of the amendment to the amendment to withdraw the motion, and he felt quite certain that it was out of order. If the hon. gentleman persisted in it, he would not vote against it, because he would thus be voting that there should be no amnesty at all; but, on the other hand, if the hon. gentleman persisted in it, it would be voted down, and the House would be committed to a policy of no amnesty.

He commented upon the extraordinary speech which had been made by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Rochester), and defended the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) from the strictures that hon. gentleman passed upon him. He respected and honoured the hon. member for Selkirk, and the strictures referred to were perfectly unwarrantable and uncalled for. He contended that it was in the interest of peace that they should not proceed hastily or inconsiderately in the matter, and he advised the House to wait until the facts which would be elicited before the Committee were laid before them, if they wanted to pronounce upon the matter intelligently and fairly. He had condemned the murder of Scott as much as anyone, and had characterized the act in no measured terms in the press of the country.

He had no particular sympathy with Mr. Riel. He did not know the man and he never saw him; but he had sympathy with the cause in which he was engaged at the time of the Northwest rebellion, the justice of which was conceded when Mr. McDougall's Government was withdrawn and representative government was granted to the people. The question of whether Riel was a murderer or not was not a question for this House to decide. That was before the proper courts and must be settled by them. He advised the House to wait and see whether or not an amnesty had really been promised as had been asserted by many.

He regretted the occurrences which resulted in the death of Scott, and condemned them as strongly as any man, but the House should not proceed precipitately. Again he called upon hon. members to wait until the report of the Committee which was now sitting was brought in and considered. He hoped that the hon. member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau) would withdraw his amendment.

Mr. ORTON censured the Government for the course they had pursued in the Riel matter, particularly referring to the member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake), who, to gain a paltry political victory, had hypocritically agitated this question, yet now, when his friends were in power, instead of sustaining the honour of the House, had quietly permitted Riel to enter the precincts of the Parliament. He said the course of that gentleman had been such as was unworthy of his position and his talents, and would so be looked upon by those who had been formerly so proud of him. He contended that the House should be purged of a man like Riel.

Mr. GORDON, on rising, intimated that he was in favour of the motion. He agreed with the hon. member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) as to the business which this House had with the matter. The question was not whether Riel was a murderer or not, or whether the hon. member for Selkirk had done his duty or not; but whether Riel was an unworthy member of this House or not. He deprecated the tone of the speeches made by the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) and the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Rochester). The gentlemen who supported this motion not only went so far as to compel hon. members to vote for their motion from a sense of justice, but they also tried to make it an engine by which to attack the Government and their supporters. He was sorry that so much which was offensive to the feelings of members of the House had been said during the course of this debate.

He commented in strong terms upon the constitution, purposes, and effects of the Orange body, which he declared to be fraught with evil, and would so continue perpetually. Much, however, as he deprecated the tone of hon. gentlemen in supporting this motion for the expulsion of Riel, he was sorry to say that the circumstances of the case compelled him to vote with them upon this occasion. He considered that Mr. Riel was unfit and unworthy to be a member of this House, and should be expelled upon this ground; and on this account alone would he vote for the motion now before the House.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) warmly defended the Orange institution, and denied that either he or his friends desired to embarrass the Government. The murder of Scott was a disgrace to the British Empire, and to the Dominion of Canada in particular. It had not been proved that Thomas Scott was an Orangeman, but he was a Canadian who had been bound, imprisoned and cruelly murdered.

He contrasted the conduct of the present Ministry in regard to the Scott murder when they were in Opposition and now that they were on the Treasury benches, when their courage had failed them. They were not anxious to build the Pacific Railway which the preceding Government had promised, but they said they were willing to grant an amnesty, if the late Government had promised it. The present Government had chances to arrest Riel, which the old Government had not. They had had him within the House, had allowed him to sign his name, and yet put forth no hand to arrest him. He believed the issue of a Royal Commission or the enquiry going on by the Northwest Committee was a mistake. The Government had to show that the law and integrity of the country must be maintained. If not, no one could say where such murders as that would stop. He contended that Riel should be brought to justice. He concluded by another defence of the Orange institution.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) said that the House had not to consider anything about the nationality or religion of Riel. They had to consider whether an alleged murderer was entitled to take his seat in the House, and, in view of past deliverance, he considered it would become the leader of the Government to give effect to the action he had taken when leading the Ontario House. He thought the Government ought to declare their intention of voting for the original motion.

Mr. DAVIES said that at the time the events they were discussing took place, the Province of Prince Edward Island was not in the Union. Just as after taking their seats in October last he and his colleagues had to decide on their course on another difficult question, so now they had to vote on this matter, which was also very embarrassing. He found that the man who was the subject of the resolution was looked upon by his fellow countrymen in Manitoba as a patriot and as a leader; and there was no doubt that through his aid it was that they obtained their just rights. It was not attempted to be denied that the Government, in taking forcible possession of Manitoba without consulting the inhabitants, were doing a great wrong, and that those people were justified in resisting the forcible entry of Governor McDougall.

Some hon. gentlemen from Ontario had strong feelings on this subject, and looked upon Mr. Riel as a red-handed murderer. He did not so regard him. They had no authentic evidence of the manner in which Scott had been killed, but there was no doubt that he was brutally and unnecessarily put to death, and he believed that had been found out by those concerned. For if Mr. Riel had not imbrued his hands in the blood of Thomas Scott he believed he would have been this day one of the leading members of the House. He did not see, however, that the action of Mr. Riel should be looked upon as a red-handed murder.

At the same time he thought the member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) had made out his case, that Mr. Riel was a fugitive from justice, which was the only question before the House, and according to English precedent, he ought, therefore, to be expelled from the House. He did not think the action of the Committee which had been appointed could interfere with this motion, and they should therefore vote for the original resolution.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) censured the Government for their apathy, and gave all honour to the layman, the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), who, in face of all the legal ability opposed to him, had brought this important question to a direct issue, yea or nay. The issue before the House was now whether or not Riel was entitled to take his seat, and he contended no further than this, that a man who had been implicated, directly or indirectly, in the murder of Scott was unworthy of a seat in this House until absolved by a court of justice. He hoped they would have a division upon every one of the questions, in order that the country might see how this House defended the lives of British subjects.

Mr. PICKARD said he should vote against the amendment to the amendment and the amendment. He believed that Riel was unworthy of a seat in this House, but he wanted an enquiry because he believed Riel to have been used by the late Government, and, if any more light could be thrown on the subject, it ought to be given.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that hon. gentlemen opposite showed extreme anxiety to produce any portions of any speeches with reference to this crime which he had delivered since it was committed. He had never made any speech which he would be ashamed to see reproduced anywhere. He would always endeavour to act up to his convictions. It was amusing and somewhat instructive to notice that the member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) entirely forgot to reproduce a single work spoken by the hon. gentleman who led on that side of the House, and of another hon. gentleman opposite, when they characterized the crime which had been discussed tonight.

They all recollected that in election speeches delivered by the hon. gentleman who led the party opposite, the crime was characterized in the most decided language which could be used. The also recollected that when the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) brought the matter up he used very decided language. But the hon. member and his colleague from Hastings East (Mr. White) were quite willing to forget this and to recollect anything he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had said which they thought might tend to cause ill feeling between him and certain gentlemen with whom he was acting. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) desired to point out that while the hon. member for Hastings East was apparently seeking to accomplish what might be a laudable purpose, he was using the question as a means of creating the worst possible feeling in the House and of injuring, if he could, those whom he opposed. Circumstances changed men wonderfully. There was a remarkable degree of zeal shown by the hon. gentleman when that zeal might be supposed to be capable of being turned to good account on behalf of his political friends; but there were no such exhibitions of it on former occasions.

The Government had to face the question before the House, and he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) would endeavour to face it, as he always did every question. He intended to vote for the motion of his hon. friend opposite (*applause*), and he intended to oppose the amendment of his hon. friend near him. (*Hear, hear.*) He did this simply because he thought it was right to come to the point directly and because Louis Riel was a fugitive from justice and ought to be placed where he would be tried for the offense with which he is charged.

But there was a large party in the House and the country who took a different view of the position of Mr. Riel and his associates from that which he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had been able to take. It must also be remembered that when they alleged this was a crime in the eyes of the law which no amnesty was likely to cover, it was alleged upon the other hand that when this crime—if crime it were—was committed by Mr. Riel and his council, they were *de facto* the Government of that Province, and they claimed that even if it was attended with incidents of cruelty, still it was a political execution. He could not conceive why any party in the position of those men, who were themselves at the moment asking for amnesty, should have refused a similar amnesty to others over whose lives and property for the time they held control. He could conceive, however, that it would be quite consistent in those who differed from him—and they had differed from him from first to last—to understand that offense as a political one which seemed to him and those who agreed with him in opinion simply an act opposed to humanity and justice and law.

There were many incidents connected with that deplorable occurrence in the Northwest which had a greater or less bearing upon this matter. He had always taken the ground that the people of the Northwest were put to great annoyance and injustice when the territory was taken possession of by the Dominion authorities, and he had stated so in more than one of his public utterances. The hon. gentleman who made the motion had quoted his speeches upon Riel's crime; but he omitted to quote his opinions upon the subject to which he had referred. That the people should have for a moment lost control of their passions under the circumstances and entered upon a course which was entirely unjustifiable was not much to be wondered at.

He was prepared for these reasons to take a lenient view of the cases of nearly all of them, and in regard to the question of amnesty he had no hesitation in saying that he did not see the slightest

objection to one being granted which would confer all the political offenses committed upon that occasion. He could not see how any person who had the peace and best interests of the country at heart could have any hesitation in doing the same thing.

But the question here arose, was the offense of Mr. Riel a political one or was it not? There were those who maintained that it was, but he was prepared to leave the decision of the matter to the Courts of the country. He believed that on the whole this was the best course and the only proper one for the House to take. He had been reproached as head of the Government because immediately upon his assumption of power he did not take steps for having speedy justice done in the matter; but the hon. gentlemen who had thus called him (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) to account had entirely failed to draw the attention of the House to the fact that Mr. Riel was a member of the House before he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was a member of the House, before he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was a member of the Government. (*Hear, hear.*) Their zeal found no outlet then, they were too busy defending their own political citadel to give one moment's care to the purification of the House. (*Loud cheers.*)

As to the position he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had taken as head of this Government, what were the facts? The Local Government had taken measures, as the House knew from the examination of Attorney General Clark, for the purpose—ostensibly at least—of making justice reach some of the parties concerned in this matter. It was not denied, he believed, by the legal authorities of the House that they had jurisdiction in the premises. When the Attorney General was here he had in his possession a warrant, and there was a warrant placed in the hands of the detectives for the purpose of arresting Riel.

What was the duty of the Government? The hon. gentleman who made the motion no doubt took the ground that it was the special duty of the Government to attend to any matters affecting the rights and dignity of the House. But the hon. gentleman did not give them the opportunity of doing so; and only when he had reached the conclusion of his case was he pleased to ask what the Government intended to do at that state of the proceedings. So he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was prepared to act as a member of the House in this matter and prepared, he trusted, to do so with the moderation he had always endeavoured to exhibit in matters of this kind.

He would vote against the amendment of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) for this reason that although a Committee had been appointed to make enquiries in a certain direction, even if it were established that an amnesty had been promised, that would not affect the position of the member for Provencher at the present moment. If the good faith of the Crown had been pledged to an amnesty, it would be the duty of the advisers of the Crown to consider what they should do in the matter. If the motion of the hon. gentleman was carried, that duty would still remain unaltered, and the Committee could proceed with their investigation all the same. When the proper time came for them to do so the Government would take its course and indicate to the House and the public what they felt disposed to do under the circumstances.

It was for that reason he said the other day that the Government were not prepared at present to say whether they would or would not take any steps in regard to the amnesty. It was clearly a matter for an enquiry, and it was the duty of every member of the Government to see that such measures were taken as would be just to the people and prevent anything like disturbance. There was a serious responsibility resting upon the Government in reference to the management of affairs in that distant country and it was not well that any utterances should be made in Parliament which would have a tendency to set class against class, or make it impossible to carry out the policy of conciliation and kindness which might be necessary in dealing with certain subjects in that country.

He did not feel disposed to take any other course than that, and even if he should have uttered words in times past that were too strong—he did not say that he had—he would not feel himself bound by them, improperly reported as they might be, and interpreted as they were by the hon. gentleman opposite. That would be alike unwise and unpatriotic, and would be compromising the position of those who for the moment might have the administration of the country in their hands. He would endeavour to act his part as well as his judgment enabled him to do, both as a member of Parliament and as a member of the Administration. In the meantime he saw nothing left for him but to vote against the amendment of his hon. friend from Châteauguay. (*Loud and prolonged cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said the Premier (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had only done justice to the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) who had made his remarks in a spirit of temperance and moderation. He did not think a single one of his remarks should have caused ill feeling on the part of the Premier. The Premier charged the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) with having declined to take action against Riel which it must be remembered was not in his power. The present Premier could, if he had desired it, have put his hands on Riel, but no such opportunity had been afforded the right hon. member for Kingston.

Riel's friends had said that Riel came either within the proclamation or within its intention, but why did they not test it? Why did not Riel take his seat, and surrender himself to the operation of the law? If he had done so he would have been no longer a fugitive from justice, nor would a motion have been made to expel him from the House. His position would have been no worse than now. Although it was proper to grant an amnesty to political offenders, it would hardly be likely that an amnesty would have been granted to the murderer of Scott. The matter ought to be inquired into. Whether or not Riel had been successful or unsuccessful in his rebellion, he should not have been afraid of the consequences. If he had a proper spirit, he should have stood by the act which he committed. The House had evidence that Riel had fled from justice and had evaded or eluded justice. It was the duty of the

House to purge itself from all possibility of Riel's presence among them.

He agreed that an amnesty might be granted for all political offenses, but he would say that, so far as the Imperial proclamation had said, the amnesty was not made to include those engaged in the circumstances of the death of Scott, particularly if the circumstances attending were as horrible as they had been said to be.

Mr. BOWELL said he had quoted the speeches of the leader of the Government to justify him in asking the hon. gentleman if he intended to take any course in this matter. It was true he had his motion for expulsion prepared, but it was because he was convinced that the Government would not take any action. He very much regretted the opposition he had given some years ago to the official publication of the debates in this House, because hon. gentlemen might repudiate newspaper reports.

He proceeded to allude to the motion made in reference to Mr. Delorme in connection with these Northwest difficulties. He had supported that motion, and had always endeavoured to have the House purged of members connected with this crime. He was glad to find that the Premier intended to vote in favour of this motion and against both the amendments. He would support an amnesty for political offenses, provided that those concerned in this brutal and unnecessary murder were not included.

He contended that the motion of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton), if carried, would virtually kill the whole matter. The Committee had to go into the whole question, including the origin of the rebellion, the murder, and the amnesty. He believed the session would close before any report could be made by this Committee. It had been proved that an indictment had been laid and a warrant issued, and that this man had since avoided the officers of justice. If a pardon had been promised it would alter the position of the member for Provencher in relation to this House.

The member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) had contended in effect that though a man had been murdered, yet for the sake of the peace and tranquility of the country the murderer should be pardoned. He believed the peace and tranquillity of the country would be best conserved by bringing a murderer to justice. With reference to the remarks of the member for Ontario North (Mr. Gordon), relative to a certain association, he informed him that he (Mr. Bowell) was willing at any time to discuss its merits or demerits outside of the halls of the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said his motion simply asked the House to be consequential with itself. The House at an early period of the session had appointed a Committee to enquire into matters connected with the Northwest troubles, and he thought it only logical that they should have the report of the Committee before they decided upon this matter, which was one of those it had to enquire into. He would not say anything as to the nature of the crime with which Riel was charged; but persons often did things in a time of commotion which they would avoid doing in calmer times.

Mr. BOWELL asked if the report of the Committee could do away with the facts which had been proved already to the House.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: May I ask what the hon. gentleman hopes to obtain by having this motion carried in advance of the report?

Mr. BOWELL: I hope to have the County of Provencher properly represented in this House.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South), having seconded the motion of the member for Châteauguay, explained that he did so because he wanted the House to be consistent with itself, and to act in a statesmanlike manner. It was evident that the member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) was disappointed that the Premier had been consistent in his course. He (Mr. Cameron) had from the beginning looked upon this as a political execution, and had sympathized with the Métis, whose fathers had gone into that country and settled it—(*Hear, hear*)—and who naturally felt outraged when they saw strangers coming there to take possession of their lands. (*Hear, hear.*) He thought that when a person, acting as the representative of Her Majesty, issued a proclamation in which a general was told to use the Indians against Métis, a greater crime was committed than any of which that people were guilty. Yet they heard nothing about this.

He (Mr. Cameron) had been told that he would be kicked out of Ontario South for the course he was taking with regard to the case; but there never was a constituency or a Government which could prevent him from expressing his honest opinion upon what he believed to be right. (*Loud cheers.*) He believed that the people of the Northwest were right in forming a Provisional Government under the circumstances; and he drew attention to the fact that that Government was recognized by the Government of the day, and that delegates from it were recognized by the Imperial Government.

He could not but condemn the taking away of the life of Scott. He was opposed to capital punishment. He held that no man had a right to deprive another of his life, particularly in such an atrocious manner as that in which it had been said Scott's was taken away, but he (Mr. Cameron) knew Rev. Mr. Young personally, and that gentleman had told him that the tales of cruelty with reference to the use of a butcher knife, et cetera, were untrue. (*Cheers.*) Why was Riel not expelled from the last Parliament?

Mr. BOWELL: He was not here.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell): Why, he is not here now! (*Hear, hear.*) You want to expel him because he is not here. (*Hear, hear.*) It would not hurt the hon. gentleman, who had waited so long, to wait a fortnight or so longer before deciding on this matter. The Committee was one of great ability and contained a good representation of the brotherhood. (*Laughter.*) The hon. gentleman could not surely contend that if an amnesty were granted by the Imperial Government it would make no difference. This was a question of great importance to our future peace, and if this resolution were passed they would have Mr. Riel sent back again to the House as fast as he could travel. They should throw oil on the troubled waters. He could have no sympathy with Mr. Riel, and

condemned the murder unequivocally, but he asked the House to consider the matter carefully and dispassionately.

Mr. SCHULTZ said that, in view of the fact that he had seconded the motion for the expulsion of Louis Riel from the House, it might seem strange that he should have anything to say in favour, yet, since Riel was not present to state his own case he had something to say which might be construed as favouring an amnesty. He could not go as far in his favour as his hon. friend the member for Durham West (Mr. Burk), yet he would make the assertion—a deliberate assertion—that Riel was not the one who caused the insurrection of 1869-1870.

He had stated before, and would now state again in his place in this House, that officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, and not Riel, were the persons who inaugurated the Red River rebellion. Riel was simply their tool to effect their purposes. How far he went before they lost final control of him, he was not prepared to state; but he would endeavour presently to show that those occurrences were impossible had collusion not existed between the officers of that Company and Riel. He felt that hon. gentlemen would find the assertion strange—and yet in Manitoba a great majority of the English-speaking people believed the assertion that he now made —and he was confident that should an investigation be made in a proper manner into the causes of the rebellion it would be shown that not only were the parties referred to in collusion but that at any time within three weeks after its inception the Hudson's Bay Company possessed the power to crush the movement.

It might seem to hon. gentlemen strange that the Hudson's Bay Company could have had any interest in a movement of this sort. The explanation is to be found in the fact that the stockholders in England, who received the large amount paid by Canada, did not propose to divide it with the working officers in the country, as they did the profits of the fur trade. These officers felt that they were unfairly dealt with, and that their only hope of redress consisted in undoing the bargain that Canada and the stockholders had made; and in this fact lay the explanation of their action in 1869.

If doubts were thrown upon this statement, he would read the following extract from a newspaper of the time:—"One of the causes of dissatisfaction amongst the Hudson's Bay Company officers in the Northwest is this,—they say that 300,000 pounds to be paid to the Company by the Canadian Government will be pocketed by the English shareholders, and that not one copper of it will ever be seen by the traders in this country. No doubt they are perfectly right in this view. When the English shareholders get hold of the money they will very likely hold on to it. But the traders of the Northwest proposed a game a little while ago, which, if carried out, would more than make up to them the share of the 300,000 pounds which they say the English shareholders intend robbing them of.

At a meeting of the Council of Rupert's Land, the body which controls the Company's affairs in the Territory, a motion was submitted by one of the chief factors proposing that they should secrete for their special use and benefits furs to the value of 40,000 pounds, to be divided amongst the factors and those interested just as soon as it should be clearly shown that the English stockholders intended gobbling up the whole of the Canadian purchase money. A lengthy and animated discussion took place on this exceedingly dishonest proposition, after which the motion being put, it was lost simply by the casting vote of the Chairman." It will be seen from this where the difficulty really lay; and in connection with this indication of feeling will be found an explanation of the events of 1869-1870.

Having said this much in favour of Riel and his right to a favourable consideration on this question of amnesty, he was afraid that it was all that he could say, and he must urge a few reasons why an amnesty should not, in his opinion, be granted. In the first place, much as he desired that sectional and national prejudices should be kept down, much as he desired peace and prosperity for Manitoba and the Northwest, he did not feel that the granting of an amnesty would secure either of these objects. There was danger of a repetition of the occurrences of 1869 in the valley of the Saskatchewan; and he believed, and warned hon. gentlemen, that the result of an amnesty, if granted, would be to encourage each movement, if the Métis of that region found that robbery and murder could be committed with impunity. If these offenses were not only not punished, but also condoned, by Government, we might at any time hear of some other Riel creating a Provisional Government whenever there were goods to plunder or a Canadian to murder.

In addition to this danger there was to be considered its effects on the Indian tribes. These had been attentive spectators of the events of 1869, and to their credit it was to be said that not one individual Indian ever had joined the Riel movement, although presents had been most lavishly made and the greatest exertions used by Riel, who knew perfectly well that, if they were allied with him, no military expedition could penetrate through the defiles and passes of their country, and that he could then bid defiance to the Dominion. What would be the effect on these Indians now if an amnesty were granted? He had passed through the country in 1869, and had talked with them in their camps, and one and all said, "The Queen's arm is long; in the spring her warriors will come and punish these men." The warriors indeed came, but not the punishment; and when it was known among these people, as it was sure to be known, that robbery and murder were not always punished by the white man's law, they would not be slow to take a leaf out of our books and when the occasion presented itself for their doing the same they would not be slow to remind us of the precedent. He would warn hon. gentlemen of the importance of the vote from this point of view, and should the amendment unfortunately carry, he would recommend the Government to double, and even treble, their contemplated armed force in the Northwest, for he felt that they would need it all when only this precedent was established.

In regard to the amendment of the hon. gentleman from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton), he felt that delay was almost as bad as the granting of an amnesty. He had no confidence in the likelihood of the Committee being able to report fully and fairly on the matter, and the hon. gentleman from Selkirk (Mr. Smith), who

moved for it and was its Chairman, he was sorry to say, was an officer of that Company whose actions at Red River, in 1869, he had found so much fault with. He had nothing to say against the hon. gentleman except in this character as a Commissioner. In that capacity he must say that he had the greatest possible fault to find with him. The hon. gentleman had gone to Fort Garry, and found himself and fifty other persons in prison. He knew that one of these prisoners was condemned to death, that many were more or less ill from scurvy, some had families suffering outside—and yet when on the occasion of a mass meeting being held, and three hundred people offering to open the prison doors and tear down the Fenian flag, the hon. gentleman would not consent; and he and his companions might have been there yet, so far as the officials of the Company to which the hon. gentleman belongs were concerned.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) rose to a point of order. He held that the discussion of the conduct of the Hudson's Bay Company had nothing to do with the motion or the amendments.

The SPEAKER thought that the greatest licence should be given in this debate. He did not see exactly how these observations bore upon the question, but the hon. member for Selkirk was in his place and could answer the charges that were brought against him.

Mr. SCHULTZ noticed that nearly every speaker seemed to assume that nearly the entire population sympathized with Riel's movement, and held that his Government was a *de facto* Government. But he begged to state that such was not the case. Only about one-fifth of the population joined Riel, and without the assistance of the governing authorities he could not for a day have held his position, and never at any time did there cease to be armed opposition in some part of the settlements or other. Riel commenced and continued his act of barricading the road with twenty-five men. This force had only increased to fifty when the possession of Fort Garry was given to him, and the Hudson Bay authorities had at that time a force of forty pensioners, the ordinary constabulary of the country, and three hundred special constables liable to be called upon when needed. Canadians and others offered to assist in putting down the rising and to guard Fort Garry, but the offer was rejected, the Fort Garry gates were not shut, and Riel, once in, was master of the situation, with abundance of provisions and rum, a stand of Enfield rifles and thirteen cannon with which to compel obedience. Little wonder that he could accomplish his ends; robbery was easy and murder not difficult under the circumstances.

A great deal of sympathy had been thrown away on Riel. He was represented as a patriot, as the representative of a class who had been imposed on. He could only say that Riel had few of the qualities of a pure patriot. Courage, and its concomitant virtue, mercy, were the attributes of a patriot; but, though he had often heard Riel declare that if he were the last man to pull the trigger he would stand in Fort Garry gates and defend them, what did he do when the time came? He ran like a whipped hound before even that danger came. (*Cries of "Order, order".*)

So much for his courage. His mercy was exemplified in his treatment of his helpless manacled victim. Patriots were supposed to water their country with their own blood, but the patriot Riel watered it with the blood of his helpless but dauntless victim.

Even if Riel had been entitled to an amnesty at the close of the events in 1869 his subsequent course had been such as would forfeit his right to any clemency. He was prepared to put evidence before the Commission, if one were appointed, that Riel was engaged in the Fenian movements of 1871, and he would read the following affidavit in support of that assertion:

"I, J. François Charette, of the parish of St. Norbert, make oath and say: That at the church of Père Ritchot, on Sunday the 8th day of October, 1871, I was present, and in the morning, before service commenced, I heard Louis Riel say to a number of French half-breeds who were assembled outside the church, "You see," said he, "that our friend O'Donohue is taken prisoner at Pembina. He has always been our friend, and we should fight for him and try and get him released." Pierre Delorme said, "Our Mr. O'Donohue is a prisoner, and we can do nothing, as the English are stronger than we; but the best thing we can do is to go and see the Governor and offer him our services, to show that as we can do nothing for O'Donohue we are all on his side now". To this Riel agreed, and they all went away to see the Governor. From what I have heard Riel and others say, I knew that it was the intention of him and his party to join O'Donohue and the Fenians."

"Sworn before me at Winnipeg by François Charette this 12th day of October, and interpreted and fully understood by François Charette."

"J.H. Ashdown, J.P."

In conclusion he would urge hon. gentlemen to take into consideration the importance of the subject to the interests of the Northwest, and condemn the granting of an amnesty to Riel.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) thought that a better Committee to enquire into the difficulties in the Northwest could not have been appointed. In reply to the remarks of the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Schultz), he would say he had no connection with the Hudson's Bay Company until he went there as the agent of the Dominion Government. If it were thought there was any ground for the charges that the hon. gentleman had made with regard to him, he should not have been returned four times for the same constituency, the English portion of his constituents giving him a larger majority than the French; and that though a large portion of the former were Orangemen.

In connection with his services with reference to these troubles, he had received a letter from the Queen's representative in this country acknowledging in terms he would be ashamed to mention the value of the services he had rendered. He had also been offered remuneration by the Government for his services, but had never accepted, nor did he not intend to accept one dollar. (*Applause.*)

For the allegations the hon. member for Lisgar had made with reference to the Hudson's Bay Company having interfered in these difficulties there was not the slightest foundation. Seeing just before recess the turn the debate was taking, he had brought some papers with him, and amongst them he would read a deposition of one

Robert Campbell, a chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, and member of the Council of Rupert's Land, at the time of the disturbances. This document was as follows:—

"Robert Campbell, a chief factor of the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company, now on leave of absence, maketh oath and saith: That he had lately seen the printed reports of a speech said to have been delivered by Mr. Schultz, M.P. for Lisgar, Manitoba, in the House of Commons at Ottawa, on 13th April 1871, in which appears the passage hereunder transcribed;—"The following description, which I found in one of the respectable journals of the Dominion, will, if its evidence may be trusted, show the feeling which prevailed amongst the Hudson's Bay Company's officials in the Northwest. They say that 300,000 pounds to be paid the Company by the Canadian Government will be pocketed by English shareholders, and that not one copper of it will ever be seen by the traders in the country. No doubt they are perfectly right in this view. When the English shareholders get hold of the money they will very likely hold on to it, but the traders of the Northwest devised a game a little while ago which, if carried out, would more than make up to them the share of the 300,000 pounds which they say the English shareholders intended robbing them of. At a meeting of the Council of Rupert's Land, the body which controls the Company's affairs in the Territory, a motion was submitted by one of the chief factors proposing that they should secrete for their special use and benefit furs to the value of 40,000 pounds, to be divided amongst the factors and those interested, just as soon as it should be clearly shown that the English shareholders intended gobbling up the whole of the Canadian purchase money. A lengthy and animated discussion took place on this exceedingly dishonest proposition, after which the motion being put was lost simply by the casting vote of the chairman." With reference to the foregoing passage, the deponent made oath and said that he attended all the meetings of the Council of Rupert's Land held at Norway House in the summer of 1869, a few months before the outbreak at Red River, and that to the deponent's certain knowledge no such motion as it referred to in the said foregoing passage, proposing to secrete furs to the value of 40,000 pounds, or to any value whatever, was ever submitted to the said Council, or was even the subject of discussion or voting; and the deponent saith that the statement that any motion of the kind was ever made to or entertained by the said Council of Rupert's Land is entirely false and unfounded."

(Signed) Robert Campbell

Chief Factor, Hon. Hudson's Bay Co.

"Sworn before me, for the County of Perth, at Crieff, this twenty-first day of September 1871."

He had an affidavit to the same effect here from Wm. Joseph Christie, then in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company as a chief factor, but now occupying a higher position in the service of the Company as an inspecting chief factor. He thought he might fairly put this testimony against the assertions of even the hon. member for Lisgar. They had not been told what was the respectable newspaper in which the hon. gentleman had said in his speeches he had seen the statements he had referred to. Perhaps it was the *Nor' Wester*, the paper which belonged to the hon. gentleman himself. With regard to the want of action on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company in the inception of the insurrection and throughout its course, the testimony of the hon. member for Lisgar was not, he thought, much better than it was on other points.

He had in his hand the sworn evidence of a gentleman who at the time of the insurrection was in immediate charge of Fort Garry and what was then called the District of Red River: that was Mr. Wm. Carrell, whose testimony went to dispute everything said by the hon. member for Lisgar with reference to the alleged inactivity of the Hudson's Bay Company. It would be improper for him (Mr. Smith) to attribute motives to the hon. gentleman, but he might be permitted to mention one or two facts which he had brought up at public meetings against that hon. gentleman.

He had mentioned at public meetings that the hon. member found him out a few months after he (Mr. Smith) had arrived in Red River Territory, and made certain propositions to him. He asked him (Mr. Smith) for 2,000 pounds and said, "Up to this point whatever, the matter shall be buried as concerns the Hudson's Bay Co. or not." (*Loud applause.*)

Mr. SCHULTZ asked if this style of discussion was in order.

The SPEAKER said the member for Lisgar, in the course of his speech, had made a number of statements, which had been held to be in order because they might be relevant to the question of amnesty. They certainly impugned the character of the hon. member for Selkirk, and it was quite in accordance with every rule of Parliament that the hon. gentleman should have the fullest opportunity of defending himself. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) reiterated that the hon. member had demanded 2,000 pounds from him to settle the matter and upon that depended whether there should be war, or whether the knife should be buried. (*Hear, hear.*) Some little time after that, it happened that he and the hon. gentleman were both candidates for constituencies—the hon. gentleman for Lisgar, and he (Mr. Smith) for Selkirk. The hon. gentleman one day came to him, and made a proposition with regard to his candidature to the effect that in the event of his supporting him (Mr. Schultz) in his application to be made a Senator of the Dominion (*laughter*) his (Mr. Smith's) election should not be opposed by him or his friends, or at least only nominally. The hon. gentleman had used the very best argument which had been brought forward in favour of Mr. Riel, namely, that he was only miserable catspaw, that the Hudson's Bay Company was really to blame and that if anybody were expelled it should be he (Mr. Smith). (*Laughter.*)

With regard to this little matter about the Senatorship, the hon. gentleman informed him that he had just been with a certain high personage in the Province at that time, and that he thought the best way of approaching the thing was by coming to him, and speaking it over with him. The hon. gentleman took credit to himself for the part he had played in these tremendous affairs in the Northwest, but it was hard to take from others the credit which was their due. He had told the House that instead of having the honesty and manliness

to do that which he (Mr. Smith), as the Government here believed, had gone up to do towards bringing about the restoration of peace, quiet, and good will in that country, he had done all he possibly could to bring the Government here into discredit, and prevent that union with Canada which was then much desired here, and greatly desired, he must say, by a large portion of the people of the Northwest, and not only the English-speaking people there.

He, assisted by many of the most respectable and loyal men of the Northwest, did his utmost to accomplish the work that lay before him. He thought the most humane way in which he could accomplish his object was not to commence with the spilling of blood, but to make peace as much as possible between the people to allow angry feeling to subside, and to give time for the arrival of that force which was absolutely necessary to put matters on their proper footing. People looking at the dreadful event which they were discussing from this place and at this time could not for a moment, even in imagination, conjure up what it was to those who were present at that time.

An hon. gentleman had said that on the 4th of March, 1870, he (Mr. Smith) had sat comfortably in his room while a fellow creature was being put to death. It was unfair of hon. gentlemen to speak in that way of what they knew absolutely nothing, or next to nothing of. (*Hear, hear.*) It was not true that Hudson's Bay Company had forty pensioners at their command. There were a few worn-out old men in the Province some distance from the place, but there were no men in the Fort at the time. The whole number under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company, including the clerks in the office, did not, he believed, exceed fifteen. Three of these very pensioners were afterwards struck off the roll after Mr. Wolseley entered the country, and upon an investigation; so that these men would scarcely have been the very best to use against the insurgents.

On the 4th of March, when Thomas Scott was killed, instead of sitting comfortably in his room, he (Mr. Smith), immediately on the representation being made to him, and at the instance of the Rev. Mr. Young, found out Mr. Riel, and, in company with Mr. Young, did all in his power to save the life of Thomas Scott. (*Hear, hear.*) It would be remembered that, some little time before, there was another who was condemned to die—Captain Boulton—and it was well known in Red River that on his representations Mr. Boulton's life was saved. Unfortunately, his efforts were not equally successful on this last occasion; but neither the member for Lisgar (Mr. Schultz) nor any other gentleman regretted more than he did that his efforts had not succeeded.

They had heard a great deal about the atrocious manner in which Scott was killed. He had done his utmost to probe this matter, and he had never been able to substantiate these statements in any way. He did not believe in the truth of the assertions with regard to the barbarities alleged to have been perpetrated. His (Mr. Smith's) conduct had been approved of by the late Government and by the Imperial Government, and also by his constituents. (*Hear, hear.*) If further proof were wanting it was to be found in the words of Mr. Young.

It had been industriously attempted to connect the Hudson's Bay Company with this thing throughout by the hon. member for Lisgar, but he had forgotten to tell the House that there was at the time a recognized Government of twenty members, of whom only two were in any way whatsoever under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company, and that these gentlemen held their sessions, and saw and dealt with the insurgents, and endeavoured to dissuade them from the course they were pursuing.

Among the twenty were the Bishop of St. Boniface, the Anglican Bishop of Rupert's Land, and others. He thought it would be admitted that the members of the Committee recently appointed were, with the exception of himself, well fitted for their duties. It was only English fair play that this House should insist on having further information in regard to those matters, of which he professed to have more knowledge than the majority of the members of this House.

It was justice, not to Mr. Riel himself, but to those men who sent him here, and he was convinced that in the constituency of Provencher there were to be found many men not one whit less loyal to the British Crown than any member of this House. They had chosen to send Mr. Riel here. He was not saying a word in favour of Mr. Riel, but he thought in the spirit of British fair play they should know the whole case before they pronounced judgment on the matter. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. ROCHESTER put a question to Mr. Smith, amid loud cries of "Order", which prevented the hon. gentleman's voice from reaching the gallery.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said he had been with Mr. Riel up to within ten or fifteen minutes of the time when Thomas Scott was executed. He met the Rev. Mr. Young, as arranged, at his (Mr. Smith's) house, after which he went to Governor McTavish, and he did see from the window a man led forth, who he had no doubt was Scott. He immediately took his cap and was going out when he was withheld, for the reason that no one really believed it possible. There was another man named Parker, and he was withheld from going because it was said that if one was sacrificed the other would be also. There was nothing in his report which he did not still believe to be true. All was done in a moment, and he was himself a prisoner within the Fort at that time, and had been so all the time as much as the other prisoners, including Thomas Scott.

Messrs. Schultz, Rochester, Cunningham (Marquette) and Farrow rose at once.

Mr. SCHULTZ said he desired to make an explanation.

The SPEAKER said the hon. gentleman must confine himself to explanation.

Mr. SCHULTZ was proceeding to make a statement, when he was called to order.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) held that they should discuss this question on its merits, and not with reference to the culpability of the member for Lisgar or that of the member for Selkirk. But since such latitude had been allowed, he wished to

refer to a remark which had fallen from the hon. member for Lisgar. The history of the Hudson's Bay Company for the last ten years showed that it had not the force to put down the insurrection, as had been stated. He charged the member for Lisgar with being himself a fugitive from justice. (*Laughter.*) The hon. member for Lisgar had broken gaol when he was confined to await his trial on a charge of perjury, and that crime had not to this day been condoned either by amnesty or anything else.

He denied there was any evidence that Riel had been connected with the Fenian raid, except that an affidavit of a henchmen of the member for Lisgar—a man of such a character that he (Mr. Cunningham) had once kicked him out of his office when he knew that he came there to perjure himself in connection with this very case.

It had been said that Riel should go to Manitoba to be tried; but he (Mr. Cunningham) would advise him to go to any other Province to be tried rather than Manitoba, and he thought that he would have a good ground for giving this advice in the evidence of Attorney General Clarke before the House. Louis Riel had very good reason to be a fugitive from justice, considering the kind of a man who was his prosecutor; and he quoted the published report of the proceedings before the Court of Queen's Bench at Winnipeg in the case of the Queen *v.* Lépine and others, in proof of the extraordinary manner in which that officer did his duty.

He held that Louis Riel's crime was a political one, and he contended that the reception of the Northwest delegates by the Government of Canada, with no other credential than a letter from the Secretary of the Provisional Government, was a practical recognition of that Government. He agreed that the question of amnesty was one for the British Government to deal with. He called attention to the unfairness of rewarding the various members of that Council with situations, and hounding down a young man like Louis Riel, who had in all probability had less to do with the death of Scott than any other member of his Council.

In conclusion, he called upon hon. members to wait, as the amendment of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) wanted them to do until the Committee now sitting had finished their labours, before they voted to expel Louis Riel from the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE, who on rising was received with cheers, said he had not the slightest objection to the course that had been pursued by several hon. members in regard to himself in the matter. He thought it necessary that he should say a few words regarding his own line of conduct in the past. He had not the slightest object to the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), the hon. member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) and the hon. member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton), adverting to his utterances upon this question in times past.

It was not without consideration, it was not at the heat of the moment, it was not until a considerable time had elapsed after the transaction concurred which gave rise to this debate that he had spoken to any portion of his fellow-countrymen upon it. It was not until the report of the hon. member for Selkirk—a report of which the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Rochester) seemed to be ignorant, although it was the only authentic information on the subject they had got—was before the country that he had expressed any opinion upon the matter. He felt, under the circumstances detailed in that report, which had appeared in other quarters less authentically—and he was glad to know that hon. gentlemen coincided in his feelings—he did feel that no matter what allowances were to be made, and he never disguised his view that great allowances were to be made, for the inhabitants of the Northwest under the circumstances which attended the attempted transference of the Territory, the death of Scott would not be considered a political crime. (*Hear, hear.*)

He did not set up his judgment as infallible; but, as having founded it on the report of the hon. member for Selkirk, written upon the spot, at the time, as to the circumstances which surrounded the transaction, he was unable then, he had been unable since, and he was unable now to consider the matter but as something very different from a political transaction. He had called it before, and called it now, a murder, and not an execution. (*Cheers.*) So believing, he considered it his duty to bring before his fellow members of the Province of Ontario the circumstances under which that deed was done, so that perhaps some steps should be taken to indicate the course of outraged and insulted justice. (*Cheers.*)

There was a jurisdiction in the Province of Ontario at that period, combined, at any rate, with the Province of Quebec, and it was the opinion of the leading authorities in England that there still existed a jurisdiction in that Province to deal with offenses of that kind. Attempts had been made to assert that he had used inflammatory language with reference to the case. He said at the time that he would decline to describe in his own words, and he brought down the account of his hon. friend from Selkirk, which had been already quoted. He read that hon. gentleman's account, written upon the spot, and it was upon that statement that he asked his fellow countrymen to act. The hon. gentleman from Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), with an object which was extremely palpable, went on to say that at various times through the Province of Ontario he (Hon. Mr. Blake) used this topic as a means of inflaming the passions of the people.

He would now tell the House that an attempt had been made by the friends of the hon. gentleman belonging to the institution to which reference had been made on this occasion, to asperse the motives with which he (Hon. Mr. Blake) had been animated in the discharge of what he considered his turn; and he had resolved that at no public meeting in this country would he say a single word upon the subject of the Scott murder, unless called upon to do so by questions put, arguments used, and attacks made upon himself.

He believed he could count upon the fingers of one hand—he knew he could count upon the fingers of two—every allusion he made to it outside of the halls of the Legislature from the time it occurred until tonight. The very occasion to which the hon. gentleman referred was after a motion had been made in amendment to the amendment for which he voted on the subject of the Delorme investigation. The hon. gentleman would remember

that after that motion a stream of abuse and obloquy was sought to be cast upon him (Hon. Mr. Blake) by the press which the hon. gentleman and his friend controlled. The circumstances were misrepresented, and, forgetful for the moment that their own friends were involved with him (Hon. Mr. Blake) upon that occasion, they sought to pursue him to the bitter end for that vote. Even then it was not without a demand made that he entered upon an explanation. It was quite true he did then make a statement, and he was now prepared to stand by what he had said. He had nothing to retract; and if the hon. gentleman had anything to complain of in the substance or tone of that speech he (Hon. Mr. Blake) would like to hear what it was.

Mr. BOWELL: What speech does this hon. gentleman refer to?

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: The speech at Bowmanville.

Mr. BOWELL: I did not complain of it.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said the hon. gentleman said it was an inflammatory speech. He (Hon. Mr. Blake) had taken down the hon. gentleman's words. It was true an amendment was moved to the motion of Mr. McDougall (Lanark North). Gentlemen who were then members of the House would remember the circumstances. Mr. McDougall in his motion recited that the hon. member for Prince Edward (Mr. Ross) had made certain statements regarding the connection of the then member for Provencher (Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier) with transactions in the Northwest, but the hon. member for Prince Edward denied he had used the words attributed to him in the resolution, and that all he was prepared to say was that it had been reported round the House; he, however, had not materials to prove it. To that was added the evidence of gentlemen of the House. At once the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) rose in his place, and stated that there was no foundation for the allegations. The hon. member for Prince Edward rose and repeated his denial, telling the House he had heard the rumour in the corridors and his friend from Napierville (Hon. Mr. Dorion) moved an amendment indicative of the state of facts which had just been described, asking the House to conclude under those circumstances, no member of the House having made a charge, that there was no case for a reference to the Committee. He moved that in amendment to a motion which was previously moved by Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier, for a reference of the matter to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

He (Hon. Mr. Blake) thought then, as he thought now, that it was their duty not to be carried away by passion or prejudice, or the chances of obloquy and misrepresentation, to which he knew they would be exposed by the hon. gentleman opposite and those who acted with him. He believed then, as he believes now, that it would be a dangerous precedent to allow the honour and standing of a member of the House to be the subject of investigation under such circumstances. If anything could have tended to cast a doubt on his mind upon the correctness of that conclusion it was the company he found himself in upon that occasion. (*Hear, hear.*) He supposed the hon. gentleman would not consider it was a great crime to be found voting with him for once, but to himself (Hon. Mr. Blake) it was not an additional attraction to the vote he had then thought it his duty to give. (*Hear, hear.*)

The hon. gentleman tonight, forgetful no doubt of the circumstance, told the House that by that vote he (Hon. Mr. Blake) had frustrated the success of the motion. Why, he was almost alone on that occasion. The great majority of those with whom he usually acted had a different opinion with regard to the system of Parliamentary law and of what course it was proper to pursue. His hon. friend whom he then, as now, followed, and those who usually acted with him excepting one or two gentlemen, voted against him. He would not desire, even by the bare statement of facts which he had given, to justify that vote if he had not been attacked under circumstances which rendered it necessary that he should do so.

How would the hon. gentleman justify himself for having told the House, nearly one-half of which was not cognizant of these transactions, that by that vote he (Hon. Mr. Blake) frustrated that enquiry, when he knew that it was frustrated by his own friends under the leadership of the hon. gentleman of whom he had always been an undeviating, he would not say a subservient, supporter?

Mr. BOWELL said that the hon. gentleman had made a statement which was not borne out by the journals of the House. He had not the journals with him now, but he would take the first opportunity of showing that what he said was true. He had not voted on every occasion with the hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald).

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that there was an occasion, he acknowledged, when the hon. gentleman voted otherwise, but he appeared on the journals of the House, as a reference to them would show, as an undeviating supporter of the late Government.

Mr. BOWELL said that that was just the point to which he took exception, and he would prove this to the House.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said they knew that the hon. gentleman was a military man, and had had a quarrel with the Minister of Militia.

Mr. BOWELL said he had never had a quarrel with the Minister of Militia.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that at any rate the hon. gentleman had had a difference with the Minister of Militia, and had spoken to him with considerable spirit. He did not presume to be precise as to date, but he reiterated the statement that the journals and records of the House showed that the hon. gentleman bore the character of a steady supporter of the late Administration.

He replied to a reference of the member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton) to his absence from the House during the first week of the session and reminded the hon. gentleman that neither the stability of the Government nor the interests of his constituents were endangered by the fact. He had spent an evening to some advantage in his old riding in Durham during the contest in which his hon. friend from that constituency was then engaged. He was not customarily absent from his place in this House. He had paid diligent attention to the spring session of last year, and also the session of last autumn. (*Hear, hear, from the Opposition benches.*)

There was work to be done then, and an Administration to be overturned. During the late campaign he had been able to pay a little amount of attention to public affairs, and to some effect, although by a few votes the hon. member for Wellington Centre had been enabled to make a temporary, and only a temporary, stay in this House. Every step he (Hon. Mr. Blake) took, every move he made, every speech he spoke the hon. gentlemen were the first to allege that he was animated by improper motives, that he had not the feeling such as animated their patriotic breasts, that he was doing something which it was not right for him to do. (*Hear, hear.*)

Long ago the charge of slackness had been made against him in this House. Though absent he had not been an inattentive peruser of the journals and he found that the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) had taken the earnest opportunity not to enquire of the Government whether they would undertake this duty or whether any other person would undertake it, or whether it would properly devolve on anyone else but himself to call for the papers, summon witnesses and take charge of the whole matter. He did not blame the hon. gentleman but he thought it absurd for any hon. member to say that when the hon. member for Hastings North was prepared to take the matter up any charge should be made against him (Hon. Mr. Blake) for slackness because he did not take it up. He would not refer to the gross abuse that had been hurled upon him, but would leave hon. members to consider what his motives had been.

Upon this occasion he asked the House and the country to judge of the scrupulousness of hon. gentlemen who had made these charges as to his motives, and to look at the action of hon. gentlemen on that side of the House as to the course they had taken with reference to his hon. friend from Selkirk (Mr. Smith). They had heard several attacks on his hon. friend of the grossest character, which he had been able instantly to refute, and the motives of some of them had been explained—not very much, he thought, to their satisfaction. (*Hear, hear.*) Some of those who had spoken on this occasion had said the party of the hon. gentleman had never influenced the country upon its question.

Mr. BOWELL: I did not say so.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said the hon. gentleman could not say so, because he knew it was not true. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) The Orange institution had inflamed the country upon the question. He had always pointed out that it was a question to be considered by the people of this country, not upon the ground of nationality or religion. He averred that precisely the same course of action would have been taken by him if the religion and nationality of the parties had been reversed.

He believed many of the members of the Orange institution regretted the course which had been taken by some members of it. But when other persons, not members of the institution, took it up as an Orange question, as they did, it lay not in their mouths to say they had not made it a question of that description, and for the added difficulties in which the question was placed he held the hon. gentleman and others like him largely responsible; because it was not in human nature that the Orange institution—not as a whole, but through some of its prominent members—should take such action as they did take, without provoking hostile action from those who belonged to a different religion than theirs. (*Hear, hear.*)

And this was not all, for they had had it this evening from the very gentlemen who deprecated any such mode of dealing with the question. They had the moderate, the considerate, the refined speech of the member for Carleton (Mr. Rochester), who told them that this man was murdered because he was a Protestant and an Orangeman. The hon. gentleman had made allusions of the most deplorable character, allusions which he could not characterize by any Parliamentary expression. He deprecated this mode of discussion, and regretted that the matter should not be so treated as to excite as little as possible these questions of religion and nationality which had been evoked up to this time. His hon. friend from Ontario South (Mr. Cameron) had taken ground which he perfectly well understood, although he was unable to agree with him in his conclusions upon the character of this crime. He wished to answer his hon. friend's position, especially as it was repeated by the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Cunningham), that this so-called Government had been recognized by the powers at Ottawa, an act by which he admitted they would have power to bind the country.

During the campaign of 1872 and at the town of Strathroy, the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) spoke in reference to several topics connected with this matter. In the course of the speech he stated that Riel had sent no delegate to Ottawa; that the statement that he had done so was one of those falsehoods that were coined for political purposes; that after the delegates had been chosen by the people of the Northwest, Riel impudently issued a Commission appointing them his delegates, and that they were received at Ottawa simply as delegates of the people, and not as those of the Provisional Government. There was a statement by the first Minister, the Minister of Justice (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), who was a chief actor in these negotiations, in which he not only stated that these delegates were received as delegates from the people, but distinctly repudiated them in any other capacity, and declined to admit them as delegates from Riel or the so-called Government.

He thought that that statement—which accorded, he believed, with a statement made by the hon. gentleman on this floor of this House—disposed of the argument of the hon. member for Ontario South (Mr. Cameron), and the member for Marquette, that there was a recognition of a *de facto* Government in the negotiation.

Another position taken by his hon. friend from Ontario South was that the expulsion of Louis Riel would result in his return for Provencher once more. He did not deny that this was probable; they knew that Riel was standing for Provencher in 1872; that he would certainly have been elected there, but that he and his opponent, the Attorney General, made way for the Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier, who was good enough to write a letter to his constituents and to the candidates who had done him the honour to retire in his favour, and who held his seat virtually by favour of Louis Riel; that after the death of Hon. Sir George-É. Cartier, Riel was elected, he believed

by acclamation, and that recently he was again elected by a very large majority.

Those circumstances afforded ground for the supposition that he would again be returned. That was a circumstance not without gravity, and it deserved to be considered; but they must remember that one of the principles upon which they were called upon to act was that the circumstances under which Louis Riel stood at present were such as to render it impossible that he should serve the people of Provencher or of any other constituency. It was because he did not come here, and because his absence from this place was occasioned by an evasion of justice that Provencher was not represented; and it was on that ground that they were asked to declare that seat vacant. If Riel should be expelled and should be returned again, and if there should be no alteration in the present state of affairs, he saw no alternative except to repeat the process of today. Affairs might change; Riel might submit himself to justice; he might appear here and say he was ready to take his trial; circumstances might come to light which would give a different turn to the affair; but assuming the same circumstances to exist he saw no alternative except to repeat the operation.

He (Hon. Mr. Blake) was of opinion that the proposal of the hon. member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau) ought not to prevail. It was not consistent with the amendment of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton). He admitted it was not absolutely opposed to it, because some hon. members might be of the opinion that, promise or no promise, there should be an amnesty, while other hon. members might hold that if a promise had been made which pledged the faith of the country there should be an amnesty. But the motions were inconsistent.

He thought the motion of the member for Bagot, like many of the proceedings of gentlemen calling themselves and, he assumed, being the friends of Louis Riel, on this occasion was highly improper from their own point of view. He thought no step could be taken in this direction except by those members who would be found to be not a very large minority of this House, who believed that under all the circumstances this motion for expulsion should be replaced by an immediate pardon of Riel, irrespective of any promise or pledge of pardon having been given, and his restoration to all civil and political rights, and immediate reception into this House. He believed the result of the division would show this was not the sentiment of the House, and such a finding was ill-calculated to promote the cause which he had no doubt the member for Bagot had sincerely at heart.

[*Remainder of Hon. Mr. Blake's speech not given in the press.*]

The House adjourned at 2.15 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 16, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

A considerable number of petitions were presented, praying for a prohibitory liquor law. Among them was one presented by **Mr. SNIDER** from 1,076 inhabitants at Owen Sound.

Mr. O'DONOHOE presented a petition from Noah Bernhart and others praying for a charter to construct a railway from Thunder Bay to Winnipeg.

Mr. WALKER presented a petition from 416 citizens of London for the repeal of the duties on petroleum; also one from the coopers of London to the same effect; also one from the oil refiners of London to the same effect.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented a petition from the oil refiners of Petrolia and others, asking for a remission of the excise duty on petroleum; also, from certain inhabitants of Sarnia, Wyoming, Township of Moore, and the Village of Oil Springs, praying for the same.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE

Mr. OUIMET was, on motion of Hon. Mr. Robitaille, seconded by **Hon. Mr. TUPPER**, added to the Committee on Private Bills.

* * *

PRIVILEGE

Mr. BOWELL called attention to the fact that the motion before the House last night, forming a question of privilege, should be continued and disposed of.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Hear, hear!

Mr. COSTIGAN said that, before that motion was taken up, he wished to make a statement with regard to an article which had appeared in a newspaper, and claimed the privilege of contradicting the statement contained therein. The statement was contained in some correspondence on the New Brunswick school question in *La Nationale*, a paper published in the Province of Quebec. The article was in French, and the only objection he had to the article was that the paragraph which he would read was incorrect. After having read the greatest portion of the letter in French, he said as near as he could translate it, it ran as follows:

"In 1873 Mr. Costigan showed himself to be rather a political partisan of Sir John Macdonald than a zealous and independent defender of his co-religionist. When the Liberals of Ontario united with the Catholics to form a majority in favour of the cause of the Catholics oppressed in New Brunswick, Mr. Costigan refused energetically to carry the question any farther. The concurrence of the moderate and reasonable Protestants was becoming dangerous to the interests of his political idol; but it was to be hoped that the party considerations which must have entered largely into the motives of his conduct at that time, were not the same as are now actuating him in his present course."

He complained that this was entirely misrepresenting his course upon that question, and he did not merely ask the House to accept his contradiction, because he thought he could safely appeal in making this contradiction to the Hon. Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) and the hon. member for Montreal East (Mr. Jetté) and, if he were in order, he thought he could appeal to Mr. Speaker upon the subject. The statement was incorrect, for at no time during that discussion did he hesitate to take any steps calculated to advance the interests of those whom he tried to represent in this question. Upon the occasion referred to he was prepared to go further if necessary and he never refused. On the contrary, he was most anxious to take any steps he could to advance the interests of his co-religionists on that question.

With regard to the motives which were said to have actuated him such motives did not exist at the time; they were not for the sake of defeating or embarrassing the Government, and his motives were not changed now.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the practice that the hon. gentleman had introduced would be found to be very inconvenient, and he would suggest that the Speaker should not allow this course to be pursued. It would be exceedingly inconvenient to permit the replying to newspaper strictures on the acts of members of that House here. A misstatement of facts should be brought up in the House, and he thought the line could be easily drawn.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL observed that he might say in justification of the course his hon. friend had pursued, that it was universally allowed that the distinction the hon. member for Châteauguay had drawn was a nice one; but the case quoted by his hon. friend from Victoria, New Brunswick, appeared to be a misstatement of fact. It was hard to state where the line was to be drawn.

He (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) said that the practice of replying in articles in newspapers was quite common in the Legislature of New Brunswick.

The matter then dropped.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he would like at this point to ask the Hon. Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) if he would have any objection to laying on the table of the House the receipts and expenditures down to the 10th April, and he would just say in relation to this that it had been the practice of the Government on all former occasions, when the tariff was under consideration, to give the latest possible information in reference to the important questions of the revenue and expenditure. He did not say that the return would be a correct criterion as to the revenue, and was aware that it would be an abnormal return for that period.

This he considered would be information of the greatest importance to enable them to arrive at correct conclusions as to the revenue and expenditure for the current year. The hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) would remember that the late Minister of Finance brought down this information.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said such a return would be of a misleading character. He could not see that that return would give any information to the House.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he would be sorry if the Finance Minister declined to give the return asked for. If he did, he must ask him to defer proceeding with his resolutions until the forms of the House would permit him to test the sense of the House upon the subject by a motion that he would bring forward. He considered it would be quite safe to trust the House with the information, and that there need be no more fear of the House being misled by it than there was of the Finance Minister who had the statement before him.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: *Cui bono?* (Who benefits by it?)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said there was an important issue between himself and the Finance Minister. The House was asked to impose additional taxation to the extent of $3,000,000, and it was important that the members of the House should have the fullest possible information the Government could offer them. They could exercise their judgment in the same manner as the Hon. Minister of Finance could exercise his, and great assistance would be rendered to them by this information, which was now in the exclusive possession of the Government, and which had never been refused in any Parliament.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that he did not recollect ever having heard or seen a statement of revenue and expenditure for ten days being asked for of any hon. gentleman in his position before.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON considered that a resolution of a factional character like the one referred to would be of no service to the hon. gentleman opposite. The hon. gentleman had gone far enough to let them see the line of argument he proposed taking. He had no objection to the papers being laid upon the table, but he maintained that it was not usual to ask for them, and they would answer no practical purpose. The hon. gentleman no doubt intended to argue from the return that the proposed additional taxation was not necessary, as so much might be expected at the same rate for the next six months, and therefore additional taxation would not be required. This was the only line of argument that could be drawn from the return and that would be utterly fallacious.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said if returns were not worth even printing, there could be no harm in bringing down the return. He agreed that it was a slight upon the intelligence of the members of the House to state that the return would mislead them while it was transparent to the Hon. Minister of Finance. He thought when a member of Parliament asked for a return that it ought to be brought down.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE was of opinion that the return would not convey much information, and all that could possibly be done with it was to deduce from it an argument of the character that had been already referred to.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said it would be an obvious fallacy for him to attempt to draw such an argument from the facts which would be contained in the return. He reiterated that they should have the fullest information upon the subject given to them when it was proposed to impose $3,000,000 additional taxation. As the Government would not consent to bring down the return, he would regard it as his duty to put a motion asking for the return upon notice.

The matter then dropped.

* * *

THE RIEL DIFFICULTY

Mr. MASSON resumed the debate on the Riel question. He contended that the reception by the Canadian Government of the delegates from the Provisional Government of Assiniboine implied an amnesty. He denied that there had been any action either on the part of the people of the Northwest or the French members of the House to provoke the course pursued by the hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Rochester). He was glad, however, to say that the course taken by the majority of the English members of the House had been marked by great moderation and forbearance.

If it were true that Riel had acted towards Scott as had been pretended, it would be sufficient to extinguish the least spark of sympathy on the part of his friends. The act of amnesty was not intended to pass the sponge over the death of Scott alone, but over the deaths of poor Parisien and Boulet of which we seldom hear. He denied that Scott had been killed because he was an Orangeman, the French people having no antipathy against them. He denied that the French half-breeds had been recreant to their duty, as had been attempted to be shown, as they and their leaders had at once come out to the defence of their country.

In proof of their loyalty he quoted from *Métis* of the 5th March 1870, the day after the proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor was published, which called upon the people to take up arms and repulse O'Donoghue and his followers. Riel's followers had offered their services on the 3rd, but it was not until the 8th that they knew their services were required. Then they immediately responded, and went to the front. It was on the 11th that it was known that the Fenians had been repulsed; then how could it be said that Riel had only tendered his services after the trouble was over? He proceeded

to urge that Scott's death was not a murder, he having been tried by six unprejudiced persons, the sentence being approved by six or seven others, and carried into effect by many others—all unprejudiced. If Riel were guilty of murder, the whole people of the district were murderers, for, as authorities said, when a crime is participated in by a large number of persons it loses its distinctive character and becomes a political offense.

He spoke of the convention which met there to prepare a bill of rights—a convention made up of people of all nationalities—and there Riel got up in his place and said that it was for the Government of which he was the executive to name the delegates, if it was resolved to send them, and he himself would name Ritchot and Scott. After this a Provisional Government was formed, of which, by a unanimous vote of the French delegates and a vast majority of the English ones, Riel was made President. After this Government was formed came the execution of Scott, under the authority of this Provisional Government.

After this execution of Scott, people in Manitoba, the most interested in the matter, did not shun or ignore the Government, but continued to sit in deliberation as before, and on the 15th March passed a resolution condemning the Imperial Government and that of Canada for ignoring the rights of the people; but still expressing their loyalty to the Crown of England. He quoted at length from Alexander Begg's book in support of what he said, saying that he (Mr. Begg) was not a man who had the greatest friendship for Riel and his Government.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) intimated that this was not the Mr. Begg who had been sent up with Mr. McDougall.

Mr. MASSON continued that Mr. Riel was supported in his last election by the most respectable men in Manitoba, such as Messrs. Girard and Royal, and certainly could not have been a common murderer. Besides, today they were occupying positions of honour in the Councils of the Crown, men who sat with him at the Council Chamber, who had approved the sentence of Scott.

He dwelt upon the fact that the man who, three years after the death of Scott, had, for personal spleen, been Riel's accuser, sat upon the Grand Jury before whom the indictment was laid, and proceeded to say that if there was any man who should be moderate, it was the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Schultz), who had been the principal cause of these troubles there, he having caused a division between the French and English people by not obeying an order communicated to him. Mr. Schultz professed to be a loyalist. As for Riel and his associates, they anxiously awaited the arrival of the troops, and assisted them on their way over the Portages.

He said that he would vote for the amendment to the amendment, no matter what its effect might be, as he believed an amnesty was involved, and should be proceeded upon without any side motions. After what the Minister of Justice had said as to the wrong course pursued by the hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), he thought that gentleman should have taken the matter in hand.

He (Mr. Masson) should, of course, vote against the motion of expulsion. He did not believe that Riel had disobeyed the order of the House, because it had not been conveyed to him in the usual way by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Furthermore, Riel was not a fugitive from justice, but rather from injustice and a conspiracy to bring him before a Court before which he could not obtain justice, as had been proved by the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Cunningham), and by the course which had been pursued towards him in the Courts of Manitoba.

Mr. BÉCHARD (in French) considered that the course which had been pursued in this House in regard to this matter was one which was not consistent with the dignity and respect of this chamber. The whole trouble had been caused by charlatans who pandered to the very worst passions; but happily there were those in this House who were not going to be influenced by such men. He denounced the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Schultz) as one of these, his perfection in this particular having been such as to merit his admiration. As for the Attorney General, who had given evidence before this House, he was better known in his Province by the word "traitor", an appellation which he thought could not be improved by any remarks which he might offer.

He discussed the motions before the chair, adding that the proposition of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) was the best which this House could adopt under the circumstances. He complimented the hon. member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau) upon the brilliancy of his entry upon public life, but believed that his motion, as had been explained by the Minister of Justice, was going somewhat beyond the record.

Mr. JETTÉ said that he would vote for the motion of the hon. member for Châteauguay. He thought the motion proposed by the member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau) would not serve the object he had in view. The hon. member for Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) had cited English precedents for the expulsion of members from the House; but the right of expulsion had often been exercised in such a manner that historians and other writers, in after years, when free from bias and under the guidance of reason, had condemned it. In nearly all the precedents which had been cited action had been based on the report of the same Commission but there had been nothing of that sort in this case.

The only case bearing any resemblance to this was that of Sadlier; but, while he had been charged with a crime concerning which there could only be one opinion, Riel had been an actor in what was for a time a very successful rebellion, and the head of a *de facto* Government. He held that if Scott had been tried and convicted in a regular way, the offense of which Riel had been guilty was a political crime and should be dealt with accordingly. If Riel had been guilty of a felony, his extradition from the United States could be obtained; but he believed that if a demand for his extradition were made on the American Government they would refuse to send him back, as they would only consider that he had been guilty of a political crime.

He argued that when there was one party in the House which contended that the offense was murder, and another that it was only a political crime, they should pause before taking any decided action, and the motion of the hon. member for Châteauguay would give them an opportunity of doing this. (*Applause. Cries of "Call in the members".*)

Mr. OUIMET denied that he and his French friends were the legal advisers of Riel. They had simply got up to take his part in the interests of justice. He was glad that the amendment to the amendment had been offered, with the preparation of which he had nothing to do, as it would show who were the friends of justice.

The French Canadians could not but sympathize with Riel, but to their surprise the Liberal Government, which so long accused the late Government of doing nothing in the matter, had pursued the same course. When the present Minister of Justice entered the Cabinet, it was the general feeling of the House that justice would be done to Riel, but to their surprise he had been equally as apathetic as his predecessors. The Premier had told him formerly that no amnesty would be granted. Then what was the position of Riel? If he gave himself up in Quebec, he would of course be acquitted, but if he gave himself up in Manitoba or Ontario, he would assuredly be convicted. The reason he did not stand his trial was because he could not receive justice.

The House rose at 6 o'clock.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. OUIMET resumed his observations upon the motion of Mr. Bowell. The amnesty, he contended, was a question of justice, though it had been shown before the House that that amnesty had been promised. He held that there was proof of promise of that amnesty in certain Parliamentary papers. An amnesty was due to Riel, and his friends, because they had been asked to defend the country in trouble. It was clear Riel could not have a fair trial in Manitoba, and he did not think he would receive a fair trial in Ontario. If he were tried in Quebec he would, as a matter of course, be acquitted. The people of Ontario would not be satisfied if Riel were acquitted in Quebec, and the inhabitants of Quebec would not consider he had a fair trial if he were found guilty in Ontario. He warned the House that Riel's expulsion might be attended with a war in Manitoba, as the member for Marquette (Mr. Cunningham) had the support and sympathy of the great portion of the population of that Province.

Upon these grounds he would vote for the amendment to the amendment, and, if that was lost, he would vote for the amendment. He believed most of the members from Quebec would vote in the same way, and they must do so if they intended to fulfil their pledges to their constituents. Had the Committee which had been appointed to inquire into the difficulties in connection with the Northwest been required to inquire into the necessity of an amnesty then let it be admitted they would have had to wait until the report was submitted to the House; but, it appeared it was thought the matter should be decided at once. He did not consider that the Sadlier case was applicable to the one under consideration, and concluded by eulogising the hon. members for Châteauguay and Ontario South (Mr. Cameron) for the close attention they had given to the subject.

Mr. LAURIER considered that at the present stage of this case the House had not the right nor power to expel Riel, and spoke in favour of the amendment of the hon. member for Châteauguay. He was of opinion that the charges brought against the member for Provencher (Mr. Riel) should first have been proved. This had not been done. He had never seen Riel, and could not be charged with any partiality.

He maintained that they should be guided by the rules of judicial evidence, and they had no judicial evidence of Riel having committed the murder with which he was charged. The Attorney General of Manitoba had given evidence to the effect that the indictment had been made, but they had in evidence that a true bill had been found upon that indictment. The rule of judicial evidence was that when the best evidence could be obtained, secondary evidence was not admissible. The evidence that had been produced before the House was not the best that could be obtained. It had been said that technical quibbles, as they were termed, were the bulwark of English liberty.

The objection he took, however, was not technical, but material. They had not seen the indictment to which Attorney General Clarke had referred, and they had not seen produced the evidence he considered it necessary they should have. He was prepared to be guided by the rules which obtained in the Sadlier case. In the first place the House should not act upon its knowledge of the facts. They required substantial proof of charges.

The second part of the case of the hon. member for Hastings North was that Riel was a fugitive from justice, but the House could not assume he was a fugitive from justice without having the return of the Sheriff that Riel could not be found or arrested.

Then it should be decided whether an amnesty had been promised to Riel or not, before they could say he was a fugitive from justice. If it were found that he had not been promised an amnesty, then if Riel did not appear at the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba to take his trial—then, and not till then, would Riel be a fugitive from justice. The hard part of the case of the hon. member for Hastings North was that Riel, having disobeyed the order of the House by not attending in his seat as required, should be expelled from the House. That order had never been served on the member for Provencher, and no attempt had been made to serve it upon him. Therefore, the House had no right to expel Riel upon this count.

He could not conceive why the amendment was brought before the House. He supposed it was moved for the purpose of embarrassing the Government. It was absurd to move such an amendment when a committee had been appointed to inquire into the question of the amnesty, and he was sure if Riel returned he would say, when he learned what had been done, "Save me from my friends."

He, himself, was in favour of an amnesty being given to Riel for two reasons. First, because the Canadian Government acknowledged the Government of Riel by receiving delegates from that Government. The second reason why he was in favour of an amnesty was that it was only a political crime that Riel was charged with. He maintained they had no right to call Riel a murderer or rebel. He constituted a provisional government under the Queen, and therefore they could not call him a rebel. He would consider that the troubles in the Northwest in which Riel took part,

constituted a glorious page in the history of our country, were it not that it was stained with the blood of poor Scott. In conclusion, he said that they had no right to expel Riel until they had substantial evidence of the truth of the charges made against him.

Mr. SINCLAIR contended that there was no necessity for a report of the Committee on the Northwest troubles. The Committee had no power to determine whether Riel was or was not a fugitive from justice. Had Mr. Bowell proved that Riel was a fugitive? In his opinion he had, and he should therefore vote for his expulsion.

Mr. DESJARDINS (in French) expressed himself in favour of Mr. Holton's amendment. He was in favour of an amnesty, and believed that the pursuance of this course was the best way to secure it. The Committee might discover that an amnesty had been promised, and, if it did, they had the best assurance that the Government would accord one. He should not vote against the motion of the hon. member for Bagot (Mr. Mousseau), and should vote in favour of Mr. Holton's amendment.

[*For the texts of Mr. Bowell's motion on April 15 to expel Louis Riel, Hon. Mr. Holton's amendment to delay the decision until after the committee set up by the House to enquire into the Red River troubles had reported, and Mr. Mousseau's amendment to grant "a full and complete pardon", see* Journals of the House of Commons, *1874, pp. 64-65.*]

The members were called in, and a vote taken of **Mr. MOUSSEAU'S** amendment, which was rejected on the following division: yeas, 27; nays, 164.

YEAS

Messrs.

Baby
Caron
Cheval
Costigan
De Cosmos
Flynn
Gill
Hurteau
McDonald (Cape Breton)
Masson
Mousseau
Pinsonneault
Robitaille
Ryan–27

Barthe
Cauchon
Cimon
Cunningham (Marquette)
Dugas
Gaudet
Harwood
Lantier
McDougall (Trois-Rivières)
Montplaisir
Ouimet
Power
Rouleau

NAYS

Messrs.

Appleby
Aylmer
Béchard
Bertram
Blackburn
Blake
Borron
Bowell
Boyer
Brouse
Buell
Burpee (St. John)
Cameron (Cardwell)
Cameron (Ontario South)
Cartwright

Archibald
Bain
Bernier
Biggar
Blain
Borden
Bourassa
Bowman
Brooks
Brown
Burk
Burpee (Sunbury)
Cameron (Huron South)
Carmichael
Casey

Casgrain
Chisholm
Cockburn
Colby
Currier
Dawson
De St-Georges
De Veber
Domville
Dorion
Farrow
Ferris
Fleming
Forbes
Fréchette
Geoffrion
Gillies
Gordon
Hagar
Hall
Higinbotham
Horton
Irving
Jodoin
Jones (Leeds South)
Killam
Kirkpatrick
Laird
Landerkin
Laurier
McCallum
Macdonald (Glengarry)
McDougall (Renfrew South)
McIntyre
Mackay (Cape Breton)
Mackenzie (Lambton)
MacLennan
McQuade
Mills
Moffatt
Moss
Oakes
Oliver
Palmer
Paterson
Pettes
Plumb
Pozer
Ray
Robillard
Roscoe
Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Victoria)
St-Jean
Schultz
Shibley
Smith (Peel)
Smith (Westmorland)
Stephenson
Stuart
Thibaudeau
Tremblay
Tupper
Wallace
White (Renfrew North)
Wood
Yeo

Charlton
Church
Coffin
Cunningham (New Westminster)
Davies
Delorme
Desjardins
Dewdney
Donahue
Dymond
Ferguson
Fiset
Flesher
Fournier
Galbraith
Gibson
Gillmor
Goudge
Haggart
Harvey
Holton
Huntington
Jetté
Jones (Halifax)
Kerr
Kirk
Laflamme
Lajoie
Langlois
Little
Macdonald (Cornwall)
McDonnell (Inverness)
McGregor
McIsaac
McKay (Colchester)
MacKenzie (Montreal West)
McLeod
Metcalfe
Mitchell
Monteith
Norris
O'Donohoe
Orton
Pâquet
Pelletier
Pickard
Pouliot
Prévost
Richard
Rochester
Ross (Durham East)
Ross (Prince Edward)
Rymal
Scatcherd
Scriver
Sinclair
Smith (Selkirk)
Snider
Stirton
Taschereau
Thompson (Haldimand)
Trow
Walker
White (Hastings East)
Willson
Wright (Pontiac)
Young–164

Hon. Mr. HOLTON'S amendment was then put. It was lost: yeas, 76; nays, 117.

YEAS

Messrs.

Aylmer
Barthe
Bernier
Boyer
Cameron (Ontario South)
Casgrain
Cheval
Cimon
Costigan
De Cosmos
De St-Georges
Donahue
Dugas
Flynn
Fréchette
Geoffrion
Gillmor
Holton
Hurteau
Jodoin
Lajoie
Lantier
McDonald (Cape Breton)
McDougall (Trois-Rivières)
McIsaac
Montplaisir
O'Donohoe
Pâquet
Perry
Pickard
Pouliot
Pozer
Ray
Robillard
Rouleau
St-Jean
Taschereau
Tremblay

Baby
Béchard
Bourassa
Brooks
Caron
Cauchon
Church
Colby
Cunningham (Marquette)
Delorme
Desjardins
Dorion
Fiset
Fournier
Gaudet
Gill
Harwood
Huntington
Jetté
Laflamme
Langlois
Laurier
McDonnell (Inverness)
McIntyre
Masson
Mousseau
Ouimet
Pelletier
Pettes
Pinsonneault
Power
Prévost
Richard
Robitaille
Ryan
Smith (Selkirk)
Thibaudeau
Yeo–76

NAYS

Messrs.

Appleby
Bain
Biggar
Blain
Borden
Bowell
Brouse
Buell
Burpee (St. John)
Cameron (Cardwell)
Carmichael
Casey
Chisholm
Coffin
Currier
Dawson
Dewdney
Dymond
Ferguson
Fleming
Forbes
Gibson
Gordon
Hagar
Hall
Higinbotham

Archibald
Bertram
Blackburn
Blake
Borron
Bowman
Brown
Burk
Burpee (Sunbury)
Cameron (Huron South)
Cartwright
Charlton
Cockburn
Cunningham (New Westminster)
Davies
De Veber
Domville
Farrow
Ferris
Flesher
Galbraith
Gillies
Goudge
Haggart
Harvey
Horton

Irving
Jones (Leeds South)
Killam
Kirkpatrick
Landerkin
McCallum
Macdonald (Glengarry)
McDougall (Renfrew South)
Mackay (Cape Breton)
Mackenzie (Lambton)
MacLennan
McQuade
Mills
Moffatt
Moss
Oakes
Orton
Paterson
Rochester
Ross (Durham East)
Ross (Prince Edward)
Rymal
Schultz
Shibley
Smith (Peel)
Snider
Stirton
Thompson (Haldimand)
Tupper
Wallace
White (Renfrew North)
Wood
Young–117

Jones (Halifax)
Kerr
Kirk
Laird
Little
Macdonald (Cornwall)
Macdonald (Kingston)
McGregor
McKay (Colchester)
MacKenzie (Montreal Ouest)
McLeod
Metcalfe
Mitchell
Monteith
Norris
Oliver
Palmer
Plumb
Roscoe
Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Victoria)
Scatcherd
Scriver
Sinclair
Smith (Westmorland)
Stephenson
Stuart
Trow
Walker
White (Hastings East)
Willson
Wright (Pontiac)

Then the Main Question being put, "That Louis Riel, a Member of this House in the Electoral District of Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, having been charged with murder, and a Bill of Indictment for said offense having been found against him and warrants issued for his apprehension, and the said Louis Riel having fled from justice, and having failed to obey an Order of this House that he should attend in this place on Thursday, the 9th day of April 1874, be expelled this House"; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down as follows:

YEAS

Messrs.

Appleby
Bain
Biggar
Blain
Borden
Bowell
Brooks
Brown
Burk
Burpee (Sunbury)
Cameron (Huron South)
Cartwright
Charlton
Cockburn
Colby
Currier
Dawson
Dewdney
Donahue
Farrow
Ferris
Flesher

Archibald
Bertram
Blackburn
Blake
Borron
Bowman
Brouse
Buell
Burpee (St. John)
Cameron (Cardwell)
Carmichael
Casey
Chisholm
Coffin
Cunningham (New Westminster)
Davies
De Veber
Domville
Dymond
Ferguson
Fleming
Forbes

Galbraith	Gibson
Gillies	Gordon
Goudge	Hagar
Haggart	Hall
Harvey	Higinbotham
Horton	Irving
Jones (Halifax)	Jones (Leeds South)
Kerr	Killam
Kirk	Kirkpatrick
Laird	Landerkin
Little	McCallum
Macdonald (Cornwall)	Macdonald (Glengarry)
Macdonald (Kingston)	McDougall (Renfrew South)
McGregor	Mackay (Cape Breton)
McKay (Colchester)	Mackenzie (Lambton)
MacKenzie (Montreal West)	MacLennan
McLeod	McQuade
Metcalfe	Mills
Mitchell	Moffatt
Monteith	Moss
Norris	Oakes
Oliver	Orton
Palmer	Paterson
Pettes	Pickard
Plumb	Ray
Rochester	Roscoe
Ross (Durham East)	Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Prince Edward)	Ross (Victoria)
Rymal	Scatcherd
Schultz	Scriver
Shibley	Sinclair
Smith (Peel)	Smith (Selkirk)
Smith (Westmorland)	Snider
Stephenson	Stirton
Stuart	Thompson (Haldimand)
Trow	Tupper
Walker	Wallace
White (Hastings East)	White (Renfrew North)
Willson	Wood
Wright (Pontiac)	Young–124

NAYS

Messrs.

Aylmer	Baby
Barthe	Béchard
Bernier	Bourassa
Boyer	Cameron (Ontario South)
Caron	Casgrain
Cauchon	Cheval
Cimon	Costigan
Cunningham (Marquette)	De Cosmos
Delorme	De St-Georges
Desjardins	Dorion
Dugas	Fiset
Flynn	Fournier
Fréchette	Gaudet
Geoffrion	Gill
Gillmor	Harwood
Holton	Huntington
Hurteau	Jetté
Jodoin	Laflamme
Lajoie	Langlois
Lantier	Laurier
McDonald (Cape Breton)	McDonnell (Inverness)
McDougall (Trois-Rivières)	McIntyre
McIsaac	Masson
Montplaisir	Mousseau
O'Donohoe	Ouimet
Pâquet	Pelletier
Perry	Pinsonneault
Power	Pouliot
Pozer	Prévost
Richard	Robillard
Robitaille	Rouleau
Ryan	St-Jean
Taschereau	Thibaudeau
Tremblay	Yeo–68

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

* * *

PROVENCHER ELECTION

Mr. SCHULTZ moved that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant for the election of a member for the electoral district of Provencher in the place of Louis Riel, expelled from this House.—Carried.

* * *

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that considering the late session they had had last night he would move that the House do now adjourn.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked the Minister of Justice whether he intended to go on with his Election Bill on Tuesday next.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said if the hon. gentleman, the leader of the Opposition, desired that the Election Bill should not be gone on with until Wednesday, the Government had no objection to postponing its consideration until then. They would take such Government measures as could be gone on with tomorrow, and after they were disposed of, the business of private members could be taken up.

The House adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

* * *

NOTICE OF MOTION

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—On Friday next—That a Special Committee be appointed to consider whether any facilities can be given for the despatch of business in Parliament, especially in regard to the relations of the Houses; and that the said Committee be composed of Messrs. Dorion, Smith, Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, Holton, Cameron (Cardwell), Blake, and the mover.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL gives notice of his intention on Friday next to ask whether the Governor in Council has made the necessary rules and regulations referred to in section 53 of part 4 of the Act entitled "An Act relating to Shipping, and for the registration, inspection and classification thereof." If they have not, then he will ask when they will be made and published in the *Canada Gazette*, as provided by the said Act.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand)—On Friday next—An Act to provide for better egress from railway cars in case of fire.

Mr. ROSS (Durham East): Whether it is the intention of Government to take the telegraph lines into their own hands, the

same as England and other foreign countries have done; and, if so, when?

Mr. YOUNG—On Friday next—That a Select Committee composed of nine members, namely, the hon. Messrs. Cauchon, Tupper, and De Cosmos, and Messrs. Dymond, Bowell, Davies, Burpee (Sunbury), Ross, and the mover, be and are hereby appointed to report to this House the most efficient and cheapest mode of obtaining the publication of a Canadian *Hansard,* containing a correct report of the proceedings and speeches in this House, the work to be commenced next session.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)—Friday next—That a message be sent to the Senate informing their Honours that this House will unite with them in the formation of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report upon the several petitions which have been or may yet be presented praying for a prohibitory liquor law; and that the members of the Select Committee on the said petitions, Messrs. Rochester, Charlton, Church and Dymond, will act as members of the said Joint Committee.

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM—On Friday next—Enquiry whether it is the intention of the Government to provide greater facilities for transport of emigrants from Canada to the Northwest, so as to give effect to the resolution adopted unanimously by the Select Committee on Immigration and Colonization of the House of Commons during the session of 1873, and depending on that, whether it is the opinion of the Committee that free passage should be given from Quebec to Fort Garry to intending immigrants from Europe and the United States desirous of settling in the Northwest, as well as to indigent inhabitants of any other Province of the Dominion desirous of settling in Manitoba.

Mr. WILKES—On Friday—For a statement of the fortifications, lands, and material of war which were transferred to the Government of this Country by the Imperial Government; also a report by a competent officer on the state of repair of the several forts and buildings so transferred, and of the condition of the material of war; also a return of such properties as have been conveyed to municipal corporations, if any, or of any lands that it is proposed by the Government to transfer to such Corporations.

Mr. SCHULTZ gives notice that on Friday next, he will move for copies of all papers, correspondence, and communications between the Hon. Adams George Archibald, late Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, and Mr. Louis Riel and Père Ritchot, in relation to the disturbances of 1869-1870, and to the Fenian invasion of 1871.

Mr. DELORME—On Wednesday next—Whether it is the intention of the Government for the diffusing of knowledge of all that pertains to this country, to add to all that has been published heretofore also a list of most of the articles considered as necessaries of life, mechanics' tools, horticultural and agricultural instruments, seeds, et cetera, with prices of each of all these articles, so that intending immigrants from Europe may be more satisfied.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON—Monday next—Bill to amend the Railway Act of 1868.

Mr. WALKER—On Monday next—Address for correspondence and recommendations which led to the issuing of the "Militia General Order", under date of 8th of June, 1872, granting to the Governor General's Foot Guards the same precedence and status in the Active Militia of the Dominion as is held by Her Majesty's Foot Guards in the Imperial army.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday April 17, 187

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.30 p.m.

Prayers

RETURNS

The SPEAKER laid on the table certain returns relating to Nova Scotia.

Petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law; to incorporate the St. John New Brunswick Printing and Publishing Company; praying for the repeal of the export duty on saw logs; for amendments to the Act incorporating the Imperial Insurance Company and of W.J. Bell and others praying for an Act of Incorporation.

* * *

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions for Private Bills were presented.

Mr. O'DONOHOE presented petitions from George Thomson and 300 others; Harry Gifford and 300 others; R.J. Noble and others; W. Wilson and others; W. Taylor and others; C.G. Helliwell and others, praying that a prohibitory liquor law be not passed.

Mr. MOSS presented the petition of the Imperial Building, Savings and Investment Society praying for an Act of Incorporation; also the petition of the Dominion Telegraph Company praying for an amendment to their Act of Incorporation.

A number of petitions were also presented praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

* * *

REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. HALL presented the second report of the Standing Committee on Standing Orders, reporting, among others, the Bill of Mr. H.S. Howland for the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway, and that for the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway.

RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. DELORME introduced a bill to amend the general Act in regard to railways, with a view to providing greater security for life and protection of property on railways in Canada.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD stated that this being a public measure, it was customary for the Government to take charge of it.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was the practice of members to introduce amendments to the Railway Act.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:—

Mr. TASCHEREAU—To amend the General Act relating to Railways, and provide for the greater security of life and property on the railways of Canada.

Mr. CARON—To amend the Act incorporating the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company.

Mr. MILLS—To remove obstructions from navigable rivers.

Mr. DOMVILLE—To amend the Act incorporating the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company; also to amend the Act incorporating the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand)—For better egress from railway cars in case of fire.

Mr. MacLENNAN—To amalgamate the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Company (limited), and the Toronto Manufacturing Company (limited), under the name of the Electric and Hardware Manufacturing Company.

Mr. MOSS—To incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Company; also, to incorporate the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway Company.

* * *

RIEL

Mr. BOWELL moved that the witnesses now in attendance upon the order of the House to give evidence in reference to the matter of the indictment and the issue of a warrant against Louis Riel be now discharged.—Carried.

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table a supplementary return to the Address for papers connected with the Northwest Territories.

On the orders of the day being called,

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. He said that, as he explained on its introduction, the object of the Bill was simply to invest in the Government the powers now exercised by the Railway Commissioners, as the Government believed that they would be able to concentrate the business in one office, do it much cheaper, and save a great deal more expenses than if it were continued in the hands of Commissioners, as at present.

He had mentioned, on introducing the Bill, that the Chairman of the Commission resigned his office some time ago. He did not have anyone appointed in that gentleman's place as a Commissioner, but simply had Mr. Trudeau, the Deputy Minister of Public Works, appointed *pro tem*, and that, of course, saved some expense and delay.

He regretted to learn, from a note received from Mr. Walsh, that he was understood to say when introducing the Bill that Mr. Walsh was discharged. Mr. Walsh was not removed but sent in his resignation, as he intended taking part in the elections and wished to be in a position to do so. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) made this statement in justice to Mr. Walsh. (*Hear, hear.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had no objection to the Bill. He supposed that taking the present state of the road into consideration it would be better for the Government to assume the contract and the management of the work for the remainder of the time. He reminded the House of the causes which led the late Government to commit the construction of the road into the hands of Commissioners. It was contemplated by the late Government to introduce a similar measure, and had they had an opportunity of doing so, such a bill would have been introduced. It would be remembered that the existing measure brought in by the late Government met with universal approbation; in fact, there was not a single dissentient to it.

As a leading member of the Government, he had a very painful remembrance of the occurrences in connection with the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway, and he desired to avoid any such difficulties in this case while the road was being constructed. He knew very well, he said, that if the Government kept the thing in their own hands they would be charged with using the patronage connected with it improperly, and that, also, he wished to avoid. It was found, however, that the ultimate responsibility of the Government was as heavy as ever, the Commissioners referring all matters of importance to the Government, and throwing the responsibility on them, instead of acting with the necessary amount of independence. He saw no objection, but rather an advantage, in the Government assuming the control of the construction of the road.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had found that the practical decision of everything rested upon themselves. He dared say, however, that although the hon. gentleman, in appointing the Commissioners, expected to get rid of the patronage, he had not done so. (*Hear, hear.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Oh, very much. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It was a laudable motive, however, which he could not help appreciating, as he did appreciate it. He might say further, in explanation (*Renewed laughter*) that the Government found it would be quite impossible for them to finish the road within the present year, although as a matter of fact, the greater portion of the work was about at an end, the bridges over the Miramichi and Restigouche Rivers being notably in such a position that it would be impossible to complete them in less than twelve or fourteen months. By appointing another gentleman to take charge of the completion of the work they had been enabled to relieve the Chief Engineer, and he would now be at liberty to devote his whole attention to the greater work in which he was engaged.

The Government hoped that the arrangement that had been made to expedite the work would effect a considerable saving of the public money.

The Bill was read a second time.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill, **Mr. MILLS** in the chair.

The various clauses were agreed to and reported without amendment. The third reading was appointed for Monday.

* * *

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of criminal justice in certain cases as respects the Province of New Brunswick. He explained that the object of the bill was to extend the powers of Police Magistrates, Recorders and County Court Judges.

The bill having been read a second time, the House went into committee, **Mr. PÂQUET** in the chair, and reported the bill without amendment.

The third reading to be on Monday.—Carried.

COLLECTION OF DEMANDS AGAINST VESSELS

On motion of **Mr. KIRKPATRICK**, the report of the Committee of the Whole on the resolution declaring it expedient to make further provision for the collection of demands against vessels was received.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time.

* * *

BUSINESS AND THE BALL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that with the consent of the House, he would pass to private bills, to advance some of them in order that committees might get to work on Monday.

Some little playful discussion ensued as to the reason which induced the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) to allow the ordinary routine of business to be passed for the sake of the ball this evening.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the hon. member only wanted to pass the order for going into Committee of Supply which meant the consideration of the duty on malt to go into the consideration of the duty on hops. (*Laughter.*)

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Private Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Canadian and Great Northern Telegraph Company—**Hon. Mr. HOLTON**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Confederation Life Association—**Mr. YOUNG**.

An Act to consolidate the mortgages and other preferential charges of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, and for raising further capital, and for establishing a Superannuation and Provident Fund Association, and for other purposes—**Mr. IRVING**.

An Act to incorporate the London and Canada Bank—**Mr. ROSS (Durham East)**.

An Act to incorporate the Niagara Grand Island Bridge Company—**Mr. THOMSON (Welland)**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Royal Canadian Insurance Company—**Mr. BOYER**.

* * *

RAILWAY COMMITTEE

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved that Mr. McCallum (Monck) be added to the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraphs.—Carried.

CONSOLIDATED FUND

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT submitted a concurrent statement of the Consolidated Fund expenditure for the nine months ending 31st March, in the year 1873-1874.

* * *

SUPPLY

The House then went into Committee of Supply, **Mr. SCATCHERD** in the chair.

On the item—charges of management, $68,100,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT explained that the increase in this vote, amounting to $8,550, was made up of increases in the Post Office Savings Bank Department, as follows: the establishment of an office at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, $3,000; increase of salaries in the office of the Assistant Receiver General at Toronto, $1,000; at Halifax, $1,500; at St. John, New Brunswick, $1,500. He explained that owing to the importance of the position it was necessary to have good men and to keep them. Their salaries had, therefore, to be increased.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said when the present Government had been in Opposition they had considerably embarrassed the Government by opposing this very increase. He, however, would not pursue a similar course.

After some discussion the item passed.

The following items under the head of "Civil Government" were all passed without discussion:—The Governor General's Secretary's Office, $6,350; the Department of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, $12,800; the Department of Justice, $13,300; the Department of Militia and Defence, $32,250; the Department of Secretary of State, $26,700; the Department of Minister of the Interior, Dominion Lands (Act 36 Vic., Cap. 34), $36,270; the Department of Receiver General, $20,560; the Department of Finance, $47,230; Customs, $27,280; Inland Revenue, $21,300; Public Works, $48,680; Post Office Department, $70,920; Department of Agriculture, $33,560; Department of Marine and Fisheries, $20,900; Treasury Board Office, $3,200; Marine and Fisheries Department Agencies, $14,900; Dominion Lands Office, Manitoba, $14,615; Public Works Department, British Columbia, $4,000; Departmental Contingencies, $175,000; Stationery Office—for Stationery, $15,000; to meet the possible amount required for new appointments and re-adjustments of salaries (Act 36 Vic., Cap. 31), $70,000.

The following items (under the head of "Administration of Justice") were also passed without discussion:—Miscellaneous, $10,000, Circuit Allowances, British Columbia, $10,000; Manitoba, $3,000.

Also the following, under the head of "Police"—Dominion Police, $25,000; Water Police, Montreal, $13,395; River Police, Quebec, $24,500.

Upon the item of $83,000 for the Rockwood Asylum,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought it was rather anomalous that the Dominion should maintain an institution almost exclusively used for Ontario patients, and he thought it would be better to transfer it to the Ontario Government, as that Province was likely to require more accommodation for lunatics in the eastern end.

The following items, under the head of "Penitentiaries", were then passed:—Penitentiary, Halifax, Nova Scotia, $25,448; St. John, New Brunswick, $42,072; Penitentiary of St. Vincent de Paul, Quebec, $60,986; Maintenance of prisoners, Manitoba, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, $10,000; Directors of Penitentiaries, $10,500. Under the head of "Legislation", the following items were passed, after some discussion and explanation:—estimates of expenditures for which votes are required—salaries and contingent expenses of the Senate, $46,868; House of Commons salaries and contingencies per clerk's estimate, $85,440; salaries and contingencies per Sergeant-at-Arms' estimate, $33,570; miscellaneous grant to Parliamentary Library, $7,000; printing, binding, and distributing the laws, $12,500; printing, printing paper, and book-binding, $40,000.

Six o'clock having arrived, the Committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

* * *

NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LAW

Mr. COSTIGAN gave notice that on Monday next he would present a motion on the subject of the New Brunswick School question.

The House adjourned at 6.35 p.m.

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NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. DOMVILLE—On Monday—Enquiry whether the Government are aware what the quantities of sugars, equal to and above No. 16, Dutch standard, equal to and above No. 13 and below No. 16, and below No. 9 were on which duty was paid last year, and if so, what are the quantities?

Mr. MOSS gives notice that he will, on Thursday next, move for leave to introduce a Bill entitled, An Act to authorize the incorporation of Boards of Trade in the Dominion.

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM—Enquiry whether it is the intention of the Government to form brigade camps during the present season, or whether the annual drill will take place at the headquarters of the respective battalions or companies.

Mr. HARVEY—Address to His Excellency the Governor General for copies of all correspondence had between the Government and the Port Burwell Harbour Company with reference to making said harbour a harbour of refuge, together with any representations made by owners of vessels or navigators of inland waters in relation thereto.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette)—Address to the Governor General for a return of all leases and sales of wood limits in Manitoba and the Northwest, the dates of leases or sales together with the terms of lease or purchase and the names of the leasers or purchasers.

Mr. De COSMOS—Monday next—Motion—That a respectful Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that a return be laid before this House respecting the Province of British Columbia for the year commencing on July 19, l871 and ending June 30, 1872; also a return for the year commencing July 1, 1872, and ending June 30, 1873; and also an approximate return for the half year commencing July 1, 1873 and ending December 31, 1873 showing (1) the public debt taken over or payable by the Dominion for each year respectively; (2) the interest on such public debt; (3) the sinking fund on the same; (4) the respective subsidy paid to the Province; (5) the total revenue collected, showing the sources; (6) the total sum voted, showing the respective votes, whether in the annual estimates or provided by statute; (7) the total amount expended, showing expenditure under each departmental head; (8) the total amount voted, but not expended, under each departmental head; (9) the total amount expended in excess of voted, showing the excess over the respective votes under each departmental head; (10) the total amount expended less than voted under each departmental head; (11) the total amount expended by each Department without a Parliamentary vote; (12) whether the amount expended was less than the total income collected in the Province and if so how much; (13) whether the total amount expended was more than the receipts, and how much; (14) the total value of imports; (15) the total value of exports; (16) the estimated actual population; (17) the rate per head of imports for home consumption; (18) the rate per head of imports of Canadian produce and manufactures; (19) the rate per head of exports of Provincial produce and manufactures; (20) the rate per head of exports of foreign merchandise; (21) the rate per head of taxes derived and interest paid to the Dominion; (22) the amount expended for the Canadian Pacific Railway, under a distinct head.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 20, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.00 p.m.

Prayers

RETURNS

The SPEAKER submitted returns of a number of banks and the annual statement of the Montreal Life Assurance Company of Canada, and a supplementary return of the district of Beauharnois for 1872-1873.

* * *

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions were presented in favour of prohibition, and as many against. Among them were the following:—By **Mr. COOK** from several inhabitants of Toronto, against a prohibitory liquor law; by **Mr. O'DONOHOE** from 190 inhabitants of Toronto to the same effect; by **Mr. BLAIN** from some inhabitants of York West for, and from 170 against it, by **Mr. MacLENNAN** against; by **Mr. METCALFE** from Yorkville, from W. Crompton and 83 others, and H.W. Manning and 88 others in favour; by **Mr. NORRIS** from 104 for and 156 from St. Catharines and 194 from the county of Lincoln against a prohibitory liquor law.

Among petitions favouring a prohibitory liquor law was a large number from the French parishes of the Province of Quebec.

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INCORPORATION AMENDMENTS

Mr. JETTÉ presented a petition for amendments to certain Acts of incorporation.

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THE WELLAND CANAL

Mr. BIGGAR presented a petition from vessel owners asking for a commission to enquire into the subject of the best entrance to the Welland Canal at the Lake Erie terminus.

* * *

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. DORION laid on the table the following returns:—Copies of all Orders in Council, and correspondence between the Imperial Government, the Canadian Government and any of the Provincial Governments since March, 1873, on the subject of provincial legislation; also a return of the Convictions for Capital Offenses since lst July 1870.

* * *

THE GASPÉ ELECTION

Mr. TASCHEREAU presented the petition of Mr. LeBouthill against the election and return of Mr. George Harper for the District of Gaspé, he being at the same time Returning Officer.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK held that it was an election petition, and therefore did not come within the jurisdiction of the House. He submitted that, according to the practice of the House of Commons in England, it ought to be withdrawn, and he asked the House to order the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to lay the returns on the table. Fourteen days were allowed for presenting the petitions to the House and thirty days for the presentation of petitions to the proper Courts, and therefore, he did not know whether or not the return complained of in the petition was to be tried before an Election Court, but, according to the practice in the English House of Commons, it was impossible for the House to proceed in a petition of this nature if Courts of election were established.

He cited the case of Brodeur in 1854, where the Returning Officer elected himself, no petition having been presented to the House at all, when it was ordered that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery should attend with the papers and the House declared the seat vacant; and he suggested that they should act in a similar way, and that they should withdraw the petition; for, if they were once to allow this petition in the nature of an election petition to be presented, they would be establishing a dangerous precedent.

Mr. TASCHEREAU said that a very important document—the protest served at the nominations—had not been found by the Returning Officer, and he would suggest that the petition be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. He thought that the hon. gentleman should not prejudice the House against the petition but allow it to go before that Committee, where it could be discussed at length.

Hon. Mr. DORION remarked that when petitions were not compiled in the form required by law they were thrown out. They had no trial of contested elections before the House; but he did not think the petition was an election petition. Although an elector or a candidate should send a petition that should resemble an election petition it should not necessarily be thrown out if it does not. They should be very careful how they proceeded where there was a tribunal for the purpose of trying elections, and the House should only interpose where there was a question of interfering with the privileges of the House.

Again, it appeared that the candidate to whom the paper was presented was Returning Officer at the time. He then appointed his election clerk and issued his proclamations, which were placarded throughout the whole country. He was not giving his opinion as to whether he had the right or not. He thought, however, that the petition should not be rejected.

Mr. PALMER remarked that the petition under discussion complained of the returns and any petition complaining of the undue return of a member came under the jurisdiction of the Election Court. If the House had no right to take it into consideration, they had no right to receive it; but, if they had a right to receive it, they certainly had the right to take it into consideration. To tell him that was not an election petition if it came within the jurisdiction of the Election Court was absurd, for, he would ask, could the Election Court take cognizance of anything that was not an election petition? He thought the Election Court very clearly covered it, and it should not be received.

Hon. Mr. DORION, in repeating his opinion that it was not an election petition, thought that the real question before the House was whether a man, who comes in respectful terms and complains that justice has not been done him, should be turned away as would be the case if they rejected that petition.

Mr. PALMER thought that this was not the point. The petition, instead of complaining of the injustice of a returning officer, simply asked for the seat and for the return to be ordered. It asked for an alteration in that return, and for that reason it was an election petition.

Mr. SCATCHERD submitted that the House should not receive the petition on the grounds stated.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it was a matter of little importance whether the petition be read or not, since further steps to be taken by the petitioners would not depend on the receipt of the petition; but it would be well to come to some understanding on the matter, since they had a tribunal for the consideration of such subjects.

It had been ordered by Parliament that all petitions praying for election returns should go before a different tribunal in order to take away from the House all interference in such questions. He thought that they should avoid making such a precedent and they should come to the understanding that any petition that should go before the Judges should be refused in the first instance by the House. Such a course would relieve Parliament of a great many petitions and a great many tasks.

Mr. GEOFFRION considered it should be referred back to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said that the petition complained of the undue return, and prayed that the return might be amended. The Election Court was the proper tribunal to try such cases. The House ought not to be dragged into the arena of party politics.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said they had their own laws with regard to contested elections, and only in extraordinary cases the House claimed jurisdiction. He thought the petition should be referred to the Judges.

The SPEAKER said he had no precedent to guide him in deciding as to whether the petition ought to be received by the House, and therefore he left it entirely to the House to determine. Consideration should be given to the question, in order that in the future similar petitions might not again be presented. His opinion was that it should not be received.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Cauchon,

The SPEAKER said he had not decided the question of order. He had simply given his opinion, and referred the question to the House.

The petition was then withdrawn, the House deciding that the petition could not be received.

* * *

PROHIBITION

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) submitted the second report of the Committee on the petitions for a prohibitory liquor law. The Committee called the attention of the House to the number of petitions presented to this and the last Parliament praying for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law, as indicating the state of public feeling with regard to the matter, and as demanding for it the serious consideration of the House. The committee considered that the intimate connection which was found to exist between the liquor traffic and crime of all kinds rendered it necessary to consider the question as to the advisability of restricting that traffic.

The Committee recommended the appointment of a Royal Commission to visit those States in the American Union in which such a law is enforced, for the purpose of enquiring into its operation with a view to the establishment of a prohibitory liquor law in Canada.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the report not only suggested the expenditure of a sum of money, but also stated how it should be spent. He would advise the hon. gentleman either to withdraw his report or word it differently.

Mr ROSS (Middlesex West) asked if it was not usual for Committees to make suggestions of the sort. The report merely recommended the appointment of a Royal Commission, and that might involve the expenditure of money, or it might not. He was willing, however, to make any change in the report which was necessary in order that the matter might come before the House.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER did not think that Committees were precluded from making any recommendations they saw fit.

Mr. BOWELL said that last year a recommendation was made that a Committee be appointed to test the quality of the liquors sold

in the Dominion and a supplementary sum was placed in the estimates to defray the necessary expenses.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that on that occasion he asked the chairman of the Committee first to meet the Finance Minister and ask him if he would take a vote for the expenses, and the Committee did so.

The SPEAKER ruled that the recommendation under discussion was not a proper one.

The report was then withdrawn.

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SECOND READINGS

The following Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to incorporate the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Company—**Mr. COCKBURN**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate La Banque d'Hochelaga—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced, and read a first time:—

A Bill to amend the Act respecting larceny and other similar offenses—**Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières)**.

A Bill to incorporate the Bank of Ottawa—**Mr. BLACKBURN**.

A Bill to amend and extend the Act relating to Vagrants—**Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières)**.

* * *

THE LAW OF LIBEL

Mr. BROOKS introduced a bill to amend and to assimilate the criminal laws regarding libel.

At the suggestion of **the SPEAKER**,

Mr. BROOKS withdrew his motion, and gave it as a notice of motion.

* * *

GASPÉ ELECTION RETURN

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery be ordered to attend at the opening of the House on Wednesday next with a return of the last election of the electoral district of Gaspé together with the poll-books and all other books, papers and documents which may have been transmitted to him with the said returns.—Carried.

* * *

QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM

Mr. BOURASSA asked whether any correspondence had taken place between the Government of Canada and the Quebec Government in relation to the transfer of certain properties at Chambly, Saint-Jean, Quebec, or elsewhere for the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum for the Province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that no arrangement had yet been completed. Objections had been raised by certain inhabitants of the County of Iberville to the transference of the Lunatic Asylum to Chambly. It was quite possible that the Barracks at Saint-Jean, now unoccupied, might be obtained.

* * *

BREAKWATER AT MAIN À DIEU, NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) asked whether it was the intention of the Government to make provision in the estimates for the building of a breakwater at the Port of Main à Dieu, Nova Scotia, according to the engineer's report.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government were considering the matter, but he could not say at present that it was their intention to make such provision. The Government would consider what the hon. gentleman had stated, and would let him know at a future day what they would propose to do.

* * *

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE DEBATES

Mr. PATERSON asked if it was the intention of the Government to provide for an official report of the debates and proceedings of this House.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was not the intention of the Government to do so, but they were disposed to consider any proposition favourably that the House might be disposed to entertain. He had observed that a notice had been given of a motion to appoint a Committee upon the subject. When the Committee reported the Government would state what they thought ought to be done with regard to the matter.

* * *

DUTIES ON COMMERCIAL PAPER

Mr. TROW asked whether it was the intention of the Government this session to abolish the imposition of duties on promissory notes, drafts and bills of exchange.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the government to do so.

* * *

PILOT COMMISSIONERS

Mr. PALMER enquired whether the Governor General had appointed the Saint John Pilot Commissioners, as provided by the

13th section of the Act 36 Vic., entitled "An Act respecting Pilotage"; if not, when he would do so.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that the Act required the Government to make the appointment within thirty days. The appointment was not made within that time, and therefore it could not now be made; but he proposed to amend the Act in order that he might be able to do so. He would then attend to the matter at once.

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PILOTAGE DISTRICT

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL enquired whether the Governor-General had fixed the pilotage district of the Port of Miramichi as provided for in the provisions of an Act passed in the 36th year of Her Majesty's reign, and entitled "An Act respecting Pilotage" and if not, when such district would be fixed and published in the *Canada Gazette*.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that the Committee had been called upon to furnish the bounds, and as soon as that was done the district would be published.

* * *

SHIPPING REGULATIONS

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked whether the Governor in Council had made the necessary rules and regulations referred to in section 53 of part 4 of the Act entitled "An Act relating to Shipping, and for the Registration, Inspection, and Classification thereof". If they had not, when those rules and regulations would be made and published in the *Canada Gazette*, as provided by the said Act.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that the Government had not made the rules and regulations under that statute but the matter was now under their considerations. He was not prepared to say when they would be adopted, but he might state that when they were appointed they would be non-compulsory.

* * *

IMPROVEMENT OF NAVIGATION

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked whether it was the intention of the government to place a sum in the estimates for the improvement of the navigation of the Southwest Miramichi River.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the Government to place such a sum in the estimates.

* * *

FREE PASSES ON RAILWAYS

Mr. FORBES asked if the Government railways in New Brunswick passed the members of the Local Parliament over them without charge, by instruction from the Dominion government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that instructions were given recently to pass the members of both governments over the roads, when engaged in their official duties. The members of the Local Parliament were not passed over them.

* * *

INDEMNITY

Mr. DOMVILLE asked whether it was the intention of the Government to provide any general scheme to indemnify Joseph Hall and others for losses sustained by fire from the Intercolonial Railway.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the Government to provide any general scheme for the indemnification of parties suffering from fires, but every case will be considered on its merits. The case of Mr. Hall was at present before the Government.

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TENDERS FOR CARS

Mr. BURPEE (Sunbury) asked whether the sixteen railway cars for the Intercolonial Railroad, or any number of them, for the construction of which tenders had been asked for in an advertisement dated April 7th instant, tenders to be received until April 18th, and a portion of said cars to be delivered on or before lst June next, and the balance on 25th June, and signed by Louis Corvell, had been arranged for with certain parties and were being built by the said parties, previous to the time tenders were asked for the construction of the same, and why so short a notice was given for tenders and the construction of the same, rendering it impossible, as claimed, for any manufacturers to finish the work within the time specified who were not previously arranged with.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he was not aware that Mr. Corvell had made any previous arrangements. He was instructed to advertise for tenders by the Engineer-in-Chief, and did advertise. As soon as his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) attention was called to the time specified for the construction of the cars, he agreed that it should be extended to four months. (*Hear, hear.*)

* * *

FRASER RIVER

Mr. DEWDNEY asked whether it was the intention of the Government to cause a survey to be made of the Fraser River between Big Bar and Soda Creek, British Columbia, for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of removing such rocks as obstruct the navigation between those points.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was the intention of the Government to survey that part of the river which might be considered navigable, with a view to removing any obstructions which might exist, but not any more of it.

* * *

DUTY ON SUGARS

Mr. DOMVILLE asked whether the Government were aware what were the quantities of sugar equal to and above No. 16. Dutch

standard, equal to and above No. 13, and below No. 16 and below No. 9, on which duty was paid last year, if so what were the quantities.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) said the whole quantity above No. 9 was 76,306,000 lbs, and that below No. 9 was 15,060,000 lbs. He could not tell anything with reference to the other numbers.

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SALARIES OF JUDGES IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES

Mr. PALMER moved for correspondence between the Government of the Dominion and the Judges of the Supreme Courts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and British Columbia, touching the inequality of the salaries for the Judges of the same standing in the different Provinces. In speaking to the motion, Mr. Palmer said all should be equal not only before the law but before the Departments. The inequality of the standing of officials, whether judicial or otherwise, in all Provinces had always been complained of ever since Confederation. The late Government had undertaken to make a discrimination in the amount of salaries paid in different Provinces, whilst the present government had gone further and added to the salaries of Judges and other officials in an improper proportion.

Was it to be suggested that the lives and liberties of the Queen's subjects were not as ideal in New Brunswick as in Ontario, and were not the honour of the Bench and Bar just as valuable in New Brunswick as in Ontario? It might be contended that the salaries were graded according to the cost of living, but in proof of this he might instance the low salaries of the Puisne Judges of British Columbia, where the cost of living was far higher than in the other Provinces.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that the salaries of all the judges had been increased.

Mr. PALMER: They have; but an increase of twenty per cent had been made on all the salaries, thus increasing the difference between the salaries of the Judges of the larger and the smaller Provinces. If it could be shown that such was not the case, New Brunswick would be perfectly satisfied; but it was so, and he appealed to the fair sense of justice of the members from all the Provinces to see that right was done. He contended that the tendency of the legislation of the country was to discriminate against the small Provinces, instancing the duty of shipping, which was at the rate of a dollar a ton; and, in view of the respective proportions of shipping built, pressed exceedingly heavily on the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE rose to a question of order. The hon. member could not discuss the proposed tariff on this occasion. His remarks had no reference whatever to the salaries of the judges.

Mr. PALMER continued in general terms, that the old Government had been bad enough. But the new one had made the small Provinces pay about ten times as much as they ought to do, but this only showed the discriminating nature of the legislation passed here.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE pressed the question of order. The subject to which the hon. member was referring was upon the orders of the House for discussion at a future time.

Hon. Mr. DORION said there would be no objection to bringing down such correspondence on the subject as might be in existence. He pointed out to the hon. member that thirteen judges of the same standing as certain judges in New Brunswick, who were paid $4,000 per annum, only received $3,500. There were very great differences in the cost of living in different parts of the country, which had to be taken into consideration when fixing the salaries of judges. There were also great differences in the amount of work they were severally called upon to perform. Six judges in the City of Montreal, as a matter of fact, did more work than the whole seventeen or eighteen judges in the surrounding districts; and the same principle applied to judges in Toronto.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said he confessed that the judges in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had much less work to do than those in the Province of Ontario, but he did not think that any distinction should be made with regard to the Lieutenant-Governors. He hoped the general subject would receive the attention of the Government.

Mr. DAVIES said the salaries of judges were even less in Prince Edward Island than in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Indeed, the salaries of the Superior Court Judges were scarcely such as gentlemen could live upon. The Ontario judges he considered were entitled to larger salaries than those in the smaller Province, but he thought the disparity was too great.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said it was a quality which belonged generally to all public officials that they desired to have their salaries increased. He called the attention of the hon. member from Prince Edward Island (Mr. Davies) to the fact that the salary of Superior Court Judges previous to Confederation was only $1,900, upon which a gentleman was supposed to be able to live. Now the same judge was paid $3,000, yet the hon. gentleman complained that a gentleman could scarcely live upon it. The same remarks applied to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where the salaries were fixed previous to Confederation, he had no doubt so as to secure the best men in the profession to serve upon the Bench. At Confederation their salaries were considerably increased in those Provinces, but no difference was made in Ontario and Quebec.

There was a very great difference, he pointed out, between the salaries of judges in Ireland and Scotland and those who served upon the English Bench; and the salaries of judges in London were especially much higher than elsewhere, because the emoluments of the Bar there were very much greater, the expenses of living much higher, and finally, it required a much larger sum in order to secure the fittest men for positions on the Bench than in other parts of the country.

He approved of liberal salaries for judges everywhere, in order to secure the services of the best men, but he entirely denied that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Palmer) had any foundation for the charge of

discrimination or sectional legislation. The hon. gentleman said the point was not that the judges in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were not paid enough but that they were not paid the same as judges of the same standing in Ontario. That was what he (Hon. Mr. Blake) called sectional feeling, to desire to take of the funds of this Dominion more than was required in order to maintain a fancied dignity. (*Hear, hear.*) He believed the hon. gentleman had paid an accurate compliment to the people of the Province of Ontario, and he hoped he would also recognize that it was necessary in one Province, in order to secure good men for the work of the Bench, to pay them larger sums than in Provinces where men of equal standing could be induced to do it for less.

The hon. member referred to circuit allowances but the amount derived from this course depended entirely on the number of circuits the judge went on. What his hon. friend desired, however, was that a judge in New Brunswick who only went on five circuits should be paid the same sum in circuit allowances as the judge in Ontario who went on fourteen. The remarks of the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) with regard to salaries of the Lieutenant-Governors were very pertinent, and might well be considered as the hon. member suggested.

Mr. PALMER repeated that what he complained of was that, the cost of living being as great in the Maritime Provinces as in Ontario and the work of the judges being of the same character, the salaries of the judges should be the same. He contended that the five judges at New Brunswick were among the hardest worked in the Dominion. He argued that the salaries of judges in England, Scotland, and Ireland were not pertinent to the case and he contended that judges living in towns in New Brunswick should be paid more than those living in the country.

The motion was then carried.

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QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM

Mr. BOURASSA moved for correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec, in relation to the transfer of certain properties situated at Chambly, Saint-Jean or elsewhere, for the re-establishment of the Lunatic Asylum for the Province of Quebec.—Carried.

* * *

PORT STANLEY HARBOUR

Mr. CASEY moved for papers in the possession of the Government, of later date than the returns made last session, in reference to Port Stanley Harbour.—Carried.

* * *

JUDGE BOSSÉ'S EXPENSES

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved for copies of all accounts transmitted to the Dominion Government by the Hon. Joseph Noël Bossé, Judge of the Superior Court for the Province of Quebec, from the period of his appointment as such Judge, up to the 31st December, 1873, for travelling expenses from the city of Quebec to the village of Montmagny, and hotel expenses in the latter place, while holding the criminal, superior or circuit court at the several ordinary or special terms of the aid courts, together with detailed statement of the sums paid in conformity with the said accounts.—Carried.

* * *

WELLAND CANAL CONTRACTS

Mr. PLUMB moved for the list of the contractors for work now in progress, or hereafter to be commenced on the several sections of the Welland Canal, with the names of their sureties; also for a list of all the tenders made for the same, specifying the names of persons so tendering, the sections for which they severally tendered, and the amount of each tender.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government could not bring down tenders for works "hereafter to be commenced" but would bring down all the papers they had.

* * *

STORM SIGNALS

Mr. FORBES moved for a return from the different storm signal stations in the Province of Nova Scotia. He complained that in Nova Scotia the storm signals had failed to meet the expectations which had been formed. Some of their most violent storms had not been signalled, but the drum had been put up after the storm had passed, and many vessels had been detained, waiting days and days for a storm which never came. (*Laughter.*) If the storm would only come when it was arranged to come it would be all right. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said that as far as Nova Scotia was concerned, the system had without doubt been a failure, owing to the fact that all communications were made through Toronto, and time was thus lost. The climatic influence on the Atlantic seaboard differed from those of other places, and he thought it would be better if the warnings were sent from Boston or Portland to Halifax direct.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL defended the Marine and Fisheries Department, lately under his control. A system of storm signals could not be established in a day, and the present vote for this service was much too small. He hoped that now at least three times as much would be spent as in the past.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said that in Quebec they always had the drum up before the storm.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the information which came from Toronto, Quebec, or even Boston was not of much value to the Maritime Provinces.

The motion was carried.

MERCANTILE AGENCIES

Mr. DOMVILLE moved for a select committee of members to enquire into a mercantile agency system now in operation in Canada, with power to send for persons, papers and records, to be constituted as follows:—Messrs. Laflamme, Brouse, McKay, Wright (Pontiac), Haggart, Caron, Plumb and the mover. He said a similar committee was appointed last year, but the object was not reached during the session.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the resolution was a very important one. The hon. gentleman brought this matter up at the close of last session, and had a committee appointed to enquire into the reasons which in his opinion justified his endeavour to do something to stop the operations of these mercantile agencies. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had no objection to enquiry into the system; but the hon. gentleman must see the necessity of placing some of the leading commercial men of the House on that committee. It would never do, in a matter of this kind, to have the committee composed of gentlemen who, like the hon. gentleman himself, were pledged to hostility toward the agencies.

His (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) impression was that these agencies had done good service in the country. They were very seldom mistaken, and always took as much pains as possible to get accurate information. While he did not see any objections to the constitution of the Committee, he would suggest that the names of Mr. Jones (Halifax), Mr. Young, Hon. Mr. Holton, and Mr. Thibaudeau should be added to the Committee.

The House at this point rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. DOMVILLE resumed his speech on mercantile agencies. He disclaimed any personal motive in pressing for this investigation, and, in support of his motion, presented a petition from St. John merchants praying for legislation on the subject. Mercantile men contended that the secret circulation of information generally was more injurious than any libel that could be published in the public press and further that the agents of these institutions were frequently engaged in mercantile pursuits themselves, and reported on their rivals incorrectly. He would not go into the details of the subject tonight. This Committee would prove whether these agencies were beneficial or not. If they were, no harm could be done by the investigation; if not, it would be advisable that legislation should be had to check their operations.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) hoped Mr. Gillmor would be substituted for him on the Committee, as he had enough to attend to on other Committees.

Mr. YOUNG thought this was not the proper time to discuss the question involved and objected to the hon. gentleman's profession to speak in the name of the whole mercantile community. He expressed surprise at the assertion made by the hon. gentleman that the premier was not an exponent of the views of the mercantile man. He contended that the expression of opinion by the Dominion Board of Trade that some proper regulation should be made for the guidance of these agencies was a fair representation of the feeling of the country in that matter. He would for the present express no opinion on the matter himself, and thought the mover of the motion would have done wiser to act upon the same principle, instead of to some extent anticipating the result of the enquiry.

Mr. WALKER defended the position of mercantile agencies, holding that they, on the whole, had done their work satisfactorily, and thought it would be perfectly safe to leave the standing and respectability of these institutions in the hands of those whose interests they affected. They saved mercantile men a great deal of expense and trouble. The information they afforded was correct and just, as a rule; and although they sometimes did make mistakes, he thought the appointment of a Committee was uncalled for and unnecessary. He would not, however, oppose it.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) gave his personal testimony to the excellent working of the system in the West, and considered that they were institutions which it was the interest of the mercantile community to maintain in their integrity.

Mr. GORDON also paid a high compliment to the general honesty of the agents of these institutions, and to the reparation which the Companies were always ready to offer when an injustice was done by them.

Mr. BERTRAM suggested the addition of the names of Messrs. Wood (Hamilton), Stuart, and Wilkes to the Committee.

After a few remarks from Hon. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. White (Hastings East),

Mr. GORDON said all the gentlemen whose names had yet been proposed were in the wholesale trade, and he thought some retail men should also be elected.

Mr. DOMVILLE then added the names of Messrs. Wood (Hamilton) and Gordon.

Mr. DYMOND pointed out that there was no Toronto man on the Committee.

With the addition of the names of Messrs. Wilkes and Bunster, the motion was carried.

* * *

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAYS

Mr. BORDEN moved for a copy of the minutes of Council authorizing the recent increase of the tariff upon the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, and of all communications between the Government, the Windsor and Annapolis Railway Company, the Local Government of Nova Scotia, or any individual relating thereto; also for a report of the tariffs upon the various lines of railways in Nova Scotia, viz., the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, the Intercolonial, and the lines between Windsor and Halifax.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER took occasion to attack the Government, charging them with having advocated one thing in opposition, and with acting otherwise by Order in Council, in the heat of an election, and for the purpose of securing the election of a Government supporter. He was glad that the motion had been made.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no objection to bringing down the information asked for. The hon. gentleman opposite had succeeded in placing the matter a little unfairly before the House. He had said that the Government and their supporters were formerly opposed to the tariffs on these railways. He could tell him that they found fault with them still. (*Hear, hear.*) He explained that the Order in Council only made the rates the same as they were on other Government railways. Arrangements were made for the change before the members left the city of Ottawa last session; and he could inform the hon. member for Cumberland that the election would have been gained for the Government in any case. (*Hear, hear.*)

The motion was carried.

* * *

ST. PETER'S CANAL

Mr. FLYNN moved for reports, plans, specifications and estimates made in connection with the contemplated extension of St. Peter's Canal.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was perfectly willing to agree to the motion, but all the papers asked for could not be brought down. The specifications and some other things were not completed.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

IMPORTATIONS OF RAILWAY CARS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WALKER moved for a return of the number of railway cars, both freight and passenger, that have been imported at various times from the United States by our Canadian Railway Companies, since the lst day of January, 1873; also the value of the goods and the duties paid on the same by each individual Company.

* * *

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

Mr. ORTON moved for a suspension of the rule in reference to Select Committees, and an increase in the number of members of the Committee on agricultural interests, in order to add the following names:—Messrs. Sinclair, McGregor, Bunster, Montplaisir, McDonnell, Biggar, Monteith and Ferris. He moved to increase the membership at the Committee to twenty-one, with a quorum of seven instead of five.

Mr. DYMOND said that before the motion was carried, he thought it would only be respectful to the House to let them know something of the causes which led to its being moved. When the hon. gentleman proposed the Committee to enquire into the interests of agriculture—no small interest, as the hon. gentleman told them at the time—he complained that in this House it was not fairly represented. He (Mr. Dymond) supposed about four-fifths of the members of the House might be said to represent the agricultural interests. They either represented agricultural counties, or they sat for constituencies which were dependent to a great extent upon agriculture for their prosperity.

Yet he was credibly informed that it had been found impossible to get a quorum of five righteous men to save the great agricultural interests from destruction. (*Cheers and laughter.*) He thought this showed there was something radically wrong in this matter; that the hon. gentleman had run beyond the reaching of wisdom in proposing this Committee and that it was very desirable that he should receive assistance from some gentlemen of larger experience who would be able to help him out of what he (Mr. Dymond) thought was a serious dilemma.

He (Mr. Dymond) did not know precisely, his parliamentary knowledge being so limited, upon which principle these Committees were appointed. He had thought, when a Committee of this kind was proposed, it was generally refused, unless a majority of the House had something like a sympathy with its object. He knew, of course, that it was not competent for him, at that stage, to discuss the propriety of appointing the Committee in question, but he thought they had evidence, first in the proposal to reduce the quorum and now to add to the Committee, that the whole matter required reconsideration, so far as that was possible at the hands of the House.

He was not himself an agriculturist, having hardly, perhaps, acquired the qualification which Brigham Young demanded of his emigrants, viz., that they should be able to grow a cabbage, but he represented a large agricultural constituency, and he was anxious that his constituents should not imagine that their interests were being trifled with either by a Committee or by the House at large. This was in reality trifling with them, unless there were some real purpose to be gained—unless the hon. gentleman could get up in his place, and show that by enlarging this Committee he was going to do something for the agricultural interest. When the hon. gentleman moved for his Committee, he was warned that, as upon a former occasion, it would prove a failure, it being a simple repetition, if the expression were Parliamentary, of old jokes of the same kind.

He (Mr. Dymond) therefore ventured to move that instead of the last three names on the list, the names of the hon. members for London (Mr. Walker), Bothwell (Mr. Mills), and Waterloo South (Mr. Young) be substituted. He thought these gentlemen would help the mover of the motion in bringing the matter to an issue, although not perhaps the issue he expected when the motion was proposed. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

Mr. YOUNG said he was already upon a Committee which engaged all his spare time, and he suggested the name of the hon. member for Middlesex North (Mr. Scatcherd).

Mr. WALKER also suggested that as he represented a city, Mr. Dymond's own name would be more appropriate than his.

Mr. DYMOND said he was already on a Committee on the interests of manufacturers, and he could not undertake to wrestle with the powers of darkness on two Committees at once. (*Laughter and cheers.*)

Mr. ORTON asserted that there was a quorum at the meetings of the Committee several times.

The SPEAKER said additions could only be made to Committees by consent of the House, and he would therefore have to rule the amendment out of order. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said the hon. member for York North (Mr. Dymond) could insist on the members being named by the House, if he desired.

Mr. DYMOND said if his amendment were out of order, he took exception to the original motion on the ground that no notice had been given of the names of those who were proposed to be on the Committee.

The SPEAKER said if that objection were taken he would have to rule the original motion out of order.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL hoped the hon. member for York North would not insist upon his objection.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) thought the hon. member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton) was being treated rather unfairly. He thought the hon. gentleman had a right to name the number of his Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no faith in the purpose which was at the bottom of the motion, although he perhaps represented more farmers than any other man in the House. The motion of the hon. member for York North was simple badinage, and he had no doubt the motion of the hon. member for Wellington would be agreed to.

Mr. DYMOND said they had perhaps better let the hon. gentleman have his Committee, and send him upstairs as soon as possible.

Mr. GALBRAITH thought the hon. gentleman should have his Committee composed in the way he thought proper. If his hon. friends had not put the duty on tea and sugar he thought they would be showing a greater interest in the matter which affected farmers. (*Cheers.*) He thought the Committee should be properly organized and report to the House.

The motion was then agreed to.

* * *

RAILWAY CARRYING TRADE

Mr. OLIVER moved to add Messrs. Wood (Hamilton), Ryan, De Veber, and Borden to the Select Committee on the railway carry-trade of the Dominion.—Carried.

* * *

POST OFFICE IN NORTH HASTINGS

Mr. BOWELL moved for correspondence relative to the establishment of Post Offices of Greenview and Bronson in the North riding of the County of Hastings. Postmasters had been appointed to both these offices by the late Government, but the present Postmaster General had carried out one appointment but not the other.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said the papers would show that there was very good reason for whatever the Department had done.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

RULES OF ELECTION COURTS

Mr. PRÉVOST moved that the general rules of the Election Court for the Montreal Division that he laid before the House on the 7th April instant, and the general rules of the Election Court of the Province of New Brunswick laid before this House on the 9th of the same month, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, to the end that the same may be examined and considered, and a report thereon made to this House.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Dorion,

Mr. PRÉVOST explained that doubts existed as to the legality of the rules which had been laid down by the Montreal Court, and he therefore deemed it right that they should be enquired into. He further contended that it was an outrage upon the French Canadians that such a law was now regulating elections. They had the right to be heard upon such matters by the House of Commons, and they might as well rob them of their right to use the French language in the Courts and in Parliament as to take away from them this boon.

Mr. TASCHEREAU had no opinion to give upon the subject but desired to know whether or not the Court was properly constituted.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the case was an important one, and he should not oppose the motion.

The motion was carried.

* * *

INSPECTION OF SALT

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) moved that on Wednesday next this House resolve itself into Committee to consider a resolution, "That it is expedient to provide for the inspection of salt manufactured in Canada and for the appointment of salt inspectors."

OVERFLOW OF THE GRAND RIVER

Mr. McCALLUM moved for the correspondence, if any, for the past two years, between the Government and the Engineer or Engineers in charge of the Welland Canal, as to the amount of damage sustained by land owners and property holders along the Grand River in the Counties of Haldimand and Monck; also for copies of all reports, if any, as to the valuation and payment of said damages caused by holding the water in the said river much higher than usual for the use of the said canal. He complained that great injustice had been done to the people for years past on account of the water overflowing their land.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) endorsed the remarks of the previous speaker.

The motion was carried.

* * *

UNITED STATES TONNAGE DUES ON CANADIAN VESSELS

Mr. NORRIS moved for copies of all correspondence, if any, between the Government of Canada and the American Government in reference to the regulation making it imperative on all Canadian vessels to call at Duncan City, in the Straits of Mackinaw, before entering into Lake Michigan; also in reference to the tonnage dues imposed on Canadian vessels annually in American ports.

He particularly complained of the loss of time occasioned by the necessity of calling at Duncan City. He had no doubt the American Government thought it would prevent smuggling, but they might do this by sending out a revenue cutter to make searches instead of causing this grievous delay. The loss of time occasioned was ten to twelve hours, the whole making a crying grievance. He also objected to the tonnage dues, which were especially unjust, since American vessels came in here perfectly free of duty.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE asked that the motion be not now passed, as correspondence was going on in which the grievance was being discussed. The Government were endeavouring to remedy the matter complained of.

Mr. NORRIS withdrew his motion.

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THE DAWSON ROUTE

Mr. HORTON moved for a statement of the number of emigrants conveyed by the Government over the Dawson Road to Manitoba since the opening of said routes and the average cost of persons so conveyed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was difficult to bring down the information in the precise manner asked for, but he would say that the total expenditure for the road had been $1,948,887 in capital expenditure. The working expenses last year had been $195,299. It was a most expensive road, and the cost last year of forwarding 150 police was $67,000. Between 5,000 and 6,000 persons have been carried forward on the road, including the police. It was such an expensive undertaking that the government hardly dared come down with the estimates for it, and were at a loss what to do.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) characterized the road as a fraud, and said that when the estimates came up, he would be able to prove some of the great frauds which had been perpetrated.

After a brief discussion the motion passed.

* * *

THE MENNONITE IMMIGRATION

Mr. SCATCHERD moved for copies of all Orders in Council and of all correspondence between the Imperial and Dominion Governments and their agents relating to the emigration of the Mennonites from Southern Russia to Canada, and the arrangements for their transport to this country and conveyance through it, as well as for their reception and ultimate settlement in the Northwest.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE and **Mr. YOUNG** spoke of the great advantage it would be to have these people among us. They were models of thrift and industry.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) complained of the locking up of so many townships for people such as these, who might come and who might not.

He would like to be assured of the fact that these Mennonites were really coming to Manitoba, and feared that if they did they would ultimately go to the States, whither so many had already gone.

We might, in his opinion, obtain a far better class of immigrant than even these—good as they were. Besides, English people, to whom he referred, would need no special legislation as these Mennonites did.

The motion was carried.

* * *

QUEBEC ELECTION COURT

Mr. LAURIER moved that the general rules of practice of the Election Court for the Quebec division, laid before the House on the 13th inst., be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections to the effect that the same be examined and considered and a report made thereon to this House.—Carried.

* * *

THE CANADIAN FOOT GUARDS

Mr. WALKER moved for the correspondence and recommendations which led to the issuing of Militia General Order under date of 8th June, 1872, granting to the Governor General's Foot Guards the same precedence and status in the Active Militia of the Dominion as are held by Her Majesty's Foot Guards in the Imperial Army.

He saw it was a matter of regret among the whole force that such precedence had been given to a newly organized battalion over battalions which had seen years of service. He eulogized the old

battalions, and contended that the order giving such precedence was illegal, because the regulations of the service said that precedence should count by the date of organization of each corps. He hoped the present Minister of Militia would remove the grievance.

Mr. CASEY supported these views.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) promised the correspondence as soon as possible.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was curious to hear hon. gentlemen opposite justify their position in this matter.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PORT BURWELL HARBOUR

Mr. HARVEY moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government and the Port Burwell Harbour Company, with reference to the making of the said harbour a harbour of refuge, together with any representations made by owners of vessels or navigators of inland waters.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE was not aware of any correspondence. He apprehended that his friend's motion was to bring up the matter before the House. He had to say that it could not be expected to make a harbour of refuge at every loading dock. These places were not suitable, and hence it would be too expensive to make them. The correspondence, if any, should be brought down.

The House adjourned at 10.35 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, April 21, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Mr. DOMVILLE presented twenty-six petitions in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

Petitions were presented to the same effect by Messrs. Cameron (Ontario South), Cook, Gillies, Gill, Harvey, Buell, Chisholm, Ross (Durham East), and others.

Mr. BURPEE (Sunbury) presented a petition from the Legislative Council and twenty-five members of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, from two public meetings in St. John, and ten other petitions with about 1,100 signatures, to the same effect.

Mr. FERRIS presented petitions to the same effect, signed by more than 2,000 persons.

Petitions were presented for a bridge across the St. Lawrence at the Coteau; also, to incorporate the Provincial Steamship Company.

Mr. JONES (Leeds South) presented the petition of J.B. Wiser, Prescott, for a Prohibitory Liquor Law; also, for a new survey of the route of the Welland Canal.

Petitions in favour of increased protection were presented by **Messrs. NORRIS** and **SMITH (Peel)**.

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STANDING ORDERS

Mr. RYMAL presented the fourth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

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CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER introduced a Bill to amend the Controverted Election Law. In explaining the difference between the Bill and the present Act, he said the principal change was as to the constitution of the Court. Instead of the ordinary Courts being subject to the direction of the Lieutenant-Governor in regard to the trial of controverted elections, the Courts of the various Provinces were to be given jurisdiction as in ordinary cases before these Courts. (*Hear, hear.*)

They would thus not be Courts specially created for election trials, but they would, of course, be subject to the procedure enacted by the Bill, as to the presentation of petitions, and so on. They also proposed to make the cases to be tried before one judge.

He also proposed to make the defeated candidate liable to be petitioned against. At present the petition against the sitting member required only to be signed by an elector and the conduct of the defeated candidate was exempt from enquiry unless the seat were claimed for him. Great abuses might and did arise from that provision. The defeated candidate might himself have been guilty of acts of corruption equally as gross as those practised by the successful candidate, and if the latter were unseated the second election would be to all intents and purposes a "walk over" for the former. They, therefore, proposed to make the defeated liable to be petitioned against, and if found guilty of corruption declared disqualified to sit. This, he thought, would be a great means of preventing corruption and bribery.

Another feature in the new law, which had already been successfully introduced into Ontario, related to the examination of parties before the trial was proceeded with. It was calculated that it would be of great advantage to arrive at the facts before the trial; and in fact it would be the means of preventing many cases from proceeding, as it was very well known the tendency of both parties to a contest was to exaggerate the expenses of their opponents, and a preliminary examination would tend to clear away doubts which might exist upon those grounds. The production of documents, which might be useful in evidence in the case, before the trial was also provided for, and also that a candidate might be examined as a witness. It was also provided that an examination might be appointed by the Judge to take evidence, and directions were given as to what use might be made of such evidence in the case.

Trial might be made before a single Judge, which was strictly the case in Ontario already, and in all the other Provinces in the Dominion except Quebec. He explained the system upon which the Courts of Quebec were constituted. The Bill provided for an appeal on questions of law to a higher Court in all the Provinces except Quebec, but not on a question of fact. In Quebec, however, the Courts at present provided for an appeal to the Superior Courts on questions of fact as well as of law. He proposed to continue that system under the new election law in regard to that particular Province. There were several other minor changes proposed in the Bill, but these were the principal features. He moved the first reading of the Bill. (*Cheers.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said some of the amendments were extremely praiseworthy, and deserving of the consideration of the House. It would be within the recollection of those hon. members who were present last session what reasons induced him, as the introducer of the last bill, to require that the sense of the local Government should be obtained before imposing the duty on Provincial Judges. He did not know what was the action of some of the Provincial Governments in this respect, and he would therefore ask the hon. gentleman at the head of the Government, before the bill was read a second time, if he would be

kind enough, without a motion, to bring down the correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Government of Nova Scotia respecting the appointment of Election Courts.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Certainly.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said one feature worthy of consideration was that with respect to the petition being made by an elector alleging and putting in proof that corrupt practices had been resorted to by the candidates. This matter required consideration at a future period.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE trusted that his hon. friend would consider before the second reading of the bill the expediency of making some provision with regard to the other Provinces similar to that, he said, the House should adopt without regard to Quebec. As to appeals as to questions of fact, he did not think one judge should have the power of officially disposing of questions of fact. Appeal to the full Court on questions of fact he believed would be calculated to give greater confidence than would be given by the bill as it then stood. He suggested that the Quebec Court of Appeals should have authority to dispose of questions of this kind. He was of opinion that for election trials the whole judicial staff should be available.

He highly approved of the provisions for a preliminary examination, and for the production of documents. Those provisions had been in existence in some Courts in the country for the trial of ordinary cases, and they had conduced to an early and satisfactory disposition of these cases. With regard to the proposition to petition against the defeated candidate, it might be highly useful as a preventative of corrupt practices, and therefore he was disposed to give his hearty consent to that part of the bill.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the object of the Government was to make the bill as perfect as possible, and it would gladly avail itself of any good suggestions which might be made.

The bill was read a first time.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

Mr. PALMER introduced a bill to incorporate the St. Croix Printing and Publishing Company.

Mr. ROBILLARD introduced a bill to amend the Act respecting procedure in criminal cases and other matters relating to criminal law (Sec. 29 of the Act 32-33 Vic.).

Mr. APPLEBY introduced a bill to incorporate the St. Calais and St. Stephen Railway Bridge Company.

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THIRD READINGS

The following bills were then read a third time:

The bill to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway—**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**.

The bill to amend the Act respecting prompt and summary administration of Criminal Justice in certain cases as respects the Province of New Brunswick—**Hon. Mr. DORION**.

The above bills were read and passed.

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THE ELECTION BILL

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the second reading of the bill respecting the election of members of the House of Commons. He said that for twenty-five years past legislation had been directed to diminishing the evils of corrupt practices at elections, and anyone who had watched the progress of legislation could not but be struck with the advance that had been made.

The provisions of the old law required all the electors in a constituency to go and vote in one single part of the country, determined either by the returning officer or by the Government. This created great excitement, and at the first election which took place, in 1842, needless riots were the consequence. These riots occasioned loud calls for a change. Then polling places were given to every parish, and the days of polling were reduced to two. On this becoming law, the friends of the defeated candidates were accustomed to assembling and securing the books and papers, which prevented a proper return being made. In 1847, 1848 and 1849, there were several cases of this kind—sometimes with the connivance of the returning officers. One or two of these latter were brought to the bar of the House, and severe penalties were inflicted.

After 1849 commenced another era, when the poll-books were taken at the very polls themselves. After this the number of bogus votes taken and other abuses committed by the returning officers induced the Liberal Government in 1851 to provide that returning officers should not be men liable to be prejudiced by or for either candidates, and that they should be such persons as sheriffs and registrars. This was, like the other provision, attended with beneficial results.

Then came another improvement—the abolition of the show of hands. This practice had been the cause of very great trouble. Many people had been brought together to increase the apparent majority of one or other candidate, and it had often resulted in violence. Besides the show of hands the proclamation of elections was abolished. This had been accustomed to gathering together a large number of people, in reality only for eating, drinking and parading. In 1859 came another improvement in the checking of the voters lists by the municipal authorities. This too had acted most beneficially.

Some of the amendments introduced by the present measure had been advocated by the present Ministry. Among them was the system of polling on one day. At the recent elections the Government had, so far as was possible, made the experiment of this system, and, as everyone would say, with the most beneficial results. This would much simplify elections, prevent excitement, and prevent as much as possible Government interference as well as that of outsiders, who had in reality nothing to do with the contest. It would give more liberty to people to exercise the franchise, and enable them to obtain a better representation. This measure would

in this way, as he had just said, deprive the government of the day as much as possible of all powers of interference.

It further provided that the writs of election should not be addressed to the parties whom the Government might name for the task, but to certain public officers such as sheriffs and registrars. Owing to their distance it would not do to put the elections in Manitoba and British Columbia under the same regulation, and the same applied to the elections in Algoma and Muskoka, in the Province of Ontario, and to Bonaventure, Chicoutimi and Gaspé, in the Province of Quebec. If it were found possible, he should be glad to see these come under the same rule.

There was one provision of the bill to which it might be advisable for him to refer, which was that in the event of the absence or sickness of the proper returning officer, the Lieutenant-Governor might, in certain cases, appoint an acting returning officer, in order to prevent returning of the writs to Ottawa and consequent delaying of the elections.

Another clause of the bill, and an important one, provided that when a returning officer had offended against the law and improperly used his powers, he should never again be permitted to act, but that it should devolve on the Government to appoint another in his stead. Then again, public nomination was not only a useless, but a dangerous formality, and it had been deemed advisable to do away with it. At these nominations not only were the electors accustomed to congregating, but strangers generally gathered and rioting and violence were too often the consequence—particularly in cities. Nomination day was perfectly useless, and in many countries had been abolished.

By the present bill, public nomination was abolished, the nomination being made in the following manner. The day for the nomination was fixed by the returning officer, who issued his proclamation, naming some particular public or private place for the reception of nominations. These nominations, which had to be handed to him, had to be signed by certain of electors, and had to give the name, description and qualification of the person proposed. The returning officer was to attend from twelve to two o'clock on the day of nomination, and in order that the nominations should not be shams he had to see that at least ten signatures were attached, attested to by one or more witnesses.

He enlarged upon the necessity of the latter part of this provision, inasmuch as he (Hon. Mr. Dorion) knew of a number of cases of returning officers who at election times had never been without a contest; indeed, they sometimes had procured candidates themselves. Then, it had to be stated whether or not the consent of the candidate had been obtained to his nomination. If only one candidate was proposed the returning officer made his return at once; but, if there were two or more, he would cause his proclamation to issue for the polling, in which he designated the candidates in their order on the ballot paper, their names being given alphabetically. This was to show the way in which the ballot paper should be prepared.

He had heard it said it was a pity to abolish nomination day, inasmuch as it would prevent candidates explaining their views upon the political questions of the day. He would say in reply that there was nothing to prevent the candidates from laying their opinions before the electors. They might have their ward, parish, and other meetings. In this way would be prevented violence, which past experience showed to have taken place.

The present bill did not provide for property qualification of a candidate, which had been the case with the law of Ontario since 1869. No men were prevented from candidature on the score of want of pecuniary qualification. There were numerous cases in which able men had been kept out on this account. He need only mention one case, that of the late member for Vancouver, Hon. Sir Francis Hincks, who had been kept out because it was pretended he had no qualification. Mr. Merritt's election also was within an ace of being thrown out because his qualification was not filed, he being in England at the time of his nomination. It was believed that this question of qualification might be left out without inconvenience, and it had been done.

There was no part of the question which caused so much difficulty as that of the franchise. There were objections to use of the machinery of the old Provinces, but it was deemed more satisfactory to use the franchise and voters lists of each Province on the ground of economy. It would be a saving to the country of from $50,000 to $60,000 a year. It seemed to him that the Legislatures of each Province were the best qualified to settle the franchise according to their own conditions, and were the best qualified to take measures to secure the best representatives. Besides, so many franchises would lead to confusion. Without a doubt this was a consideration which must commend itself to the House. There was another point—if the Dominion were obliged to provide its own voters lists, it would necessitate almost an army of officials, and create an immense amount of patronage whose objects would undoubtedly use their best endeavours to influence electors on behalf of the Government.

Another clause related solely to Prince Edward Island. In that Province there were the elective bodies, Legislative Council and House of Assembly, and it was necessary to choose between the two. It seemed the electorate for the local Assembly was almost universal, while the qualification of a voter for the Legislative Council was like that of Ontario and Quebec. On this account, until new lists were provided, it was deemed advisable to use the latter.

The last and perhaps the most important provision was that of the ballot. In 1848 and 1843, the election law which had been passed had been most beneficial, but it did not prevent corruption and the gagging and bribery of electors. It seemed that of late bribery was on the increase, and it behoved every man to endeavour to put a stop to what threatened to demoralize the whole country. For two years the ballot had been adopted in England, as well as in most of the provinces of Australia. The ballot, which had formerly been so repugnant to the English people, was now generally acknowledged a benefit, for where, before the ballot existed, there were bribery and corruption, such things were now almost unknown. In Australia, no bribery existed under the ballot, and the experience of that colony would be of very great benefit to Canada. Last year a large majority of the House voted in favour of the ballot—no doubt on account of the great corruption of the elections of 1872.

The provisions of this bill were principally taken from the measure as it operated in Australia, and it differed but little from those of the law of England and Ontario. In Australia there was no number on the ballot paper corresponding with that upon the list of electors. In Ontario and England, owing to the presence of these numbers, it was possible after the election to find out how a particular elector had voted. Consequently, there was not the actual secrecy which was desired. The true principle of the ballot was that not a single man should be deterred from voting by fear of the discovery of how he had voted, which was very likely to be the case if the tickets were numbered. This law provided for absolute secrecy. He was glad that Ontario had adopted the other system. The two systems would be tried simultaneously, and, if it were found that the one was better than the other, he had no doubt of its adoption by the Legislature which had it not in use.

So far as the question of impersonation of voters was concerned, the ballot would not have any effect; but it would be effective insofar as the prevention of cheating and bribery. The number of personations was so very small that it was hardly worthwhile to number the votes to check them at the risk of violating the secrecy of the ballot. In England the ballot boxes were opened and counted by the deputy returning officers alone. Here the distance which the ballot boxes would have to be carried to be counted were very great—in some cases twenty, twenty-five or even one hundred and fifty miles, and there was great danger of persons lying in ambush and stealing them. The ballots had to be counted both by the deputy returning officer and the returning officer of the county.

It was provided by this act that immediately after the election the deputy returning officer should at once open and count the ballots, mailing to the returning officer a statement of the ballots tendered and the results of their own calculations, keeping a copy of the return himself. He had also to send the ballot boxes to the returning officer, who on receipt of the box, had only to verify the statements and declare the election. In such a case there would be no inducement for anyone to take hold of or destroy the ballot box, for, if it were destroyed, it would not affect the election, a copy of the return being in the possession of the returning officer. Besides, the deputy returning officer had to give to every elector who applied for it a certified copy of such statement.

In the United States complaints were made of ballot-box stuffing; but this could only occur in one of two ways—either after the elections or by putting in two or three ballots together. The new law of Canada provided that the ballot should be signed and put in the box in the presence of the deputy returning officer, who should be held responsible if more than one were put in. At the same time, the law provided that if more than one ballot were placed in the envelope, all should be destroyed. Besides, every elector who drew his ballot must vote. He could not take his paper away. The balloting paper was so made that only a cross was necessary opposite the name of the man for whom the elector desired to vote. If more names than were required were marked, the ballot must be thrown away, being null and void. A voter, if he made a mistake in filling up his ballot, could obtain a new one by giving up the old one to the deputy returning officer. The returning officer had to give an account of every ballot which he had of those which were used, and of those which were not, whether spoiled or otherwise.

One difficulty had been provided for in the bill. This was to provide for people who were sick, or unable to leave their homes, or to distinguish the names of the candidates. The deputy returning officer was empowered to mark the ticket for such individuals in the presence of the friends of the individual.

He did not think he need enter upon the other and minor features of the bill. He would add that secret voting, while it did not prevent candidates paying away as much money as they pleased, would so regulate matters that the party who paid money would not know how the party whom he had paid had exercised the franchise, and thus the ballot would take away one of the principal inducements to bribery. Besides every precaution had been taken to punish corruption and bribery when found out and every provision was also made to strike off every vote which had been proved to have been bribed. In regard to this matter, there was often much difficulty in getting persons to go and testify to acts of corruption; but, by this law, if the judge found or believed any person to be guilty of an act of bribery he could order the clerk to bring that individual before him to be punished. There was no necessity of any complaint. This of course did not apply to the higher branches of the elections law, which were to be dealt with in the ordinary way. The law might be liable to objection. He had gone into its details pretty fully, and, if any member had any suggestion to make, he should be glad to receive them from any quarter. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the House had long expected the passage of an election law. It was provided by the Union Act that the provisions of the electoral laws of the several Provinces should be utilized until the time arrived that Parliament should provide this important measure. He thought that those gentlemen who were present at the brief session of Parliament last autumn should remember that when the features of his new election law were announced by the right hon. leader of the Government, the then leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) made the grave charge that he had made use of the different laws of the Provinces; yet, now that he was leader of the Government, he allowed his Minister of Justice to come down with a proposition that that very same course should be adopted. He thought that those who knew the views then expressed by the Premier were hardly prepared to adopt a bill that allowed the franchise to be changed day after day according to the caprice of the Legislatures of the different Provinces.

He thought that neither the House nor the country would be prepared to accept a measure with provisions so objectionable. If there were one thing over which the Commons should exercise control, it was when the foundations of representative liberty were at stake, and when it consented to allow the franchise to be under the control of another body, he would say that it had taken a step which would lower Parliament in the eyes of the world. Members of Parliament should meet on common ground so far as possible, and he was satisfied that the members would say that the exceptions were few and slight in which any difference existed between the relative independence and other characteristics which govern the franchise in the different Provinces.

What was there in the different Provinces that rendered any difference of the franchise necessary? Was there not the same average intelligence and general diffusion of knowledge; and did not the same qualifications regulate and constitute the franchise? He would not make the same remarks regarding Manitoba and British Columbia, for their cases were somewhat different; but there was nothing to induce him to depart from the general principle as to their common standing, and he saw no good ground for the adoption of any other principle.

He further contended that the House and the members should have a guarantee that no Local Legislature should be allowed to tamper with the franchise in relation to members of Parliament. There was no such guarantee under the law now introduced, as it was perfectly competent for the Local Legislature to have one election under one law of the franchise, and the next so to alter it either to benefit or to injure any particular party. He had evidence that this had been done. One of the most monstrous alterations of the law had been put on the statute book of Nova Scotia. The law provided for the registration of voters and the revision of the list by a Court which could hear the claims of all parties, and as to whether the rate of assessment was too high or too low, et cetera. From this return the election list was published; and then, because the completed and perfected list did not suit, an amendment to this law was passed after the general elections in Nova Scotia, which offered such a premium on perjury as no Legislature ever offered. The law provided that a competent Court should establish who had a right to vote.

The amendment provided that all who claimed to be electors and had not been put on the voters list would be allowed to exercise the franchise on swearing that they were entitled to vote. What was to be thought of a law which first provided who should be assessed and who should be allowed to vote, and then allowed all these provisions to be swept away, and persons allowed to force themselves upon the voters list in face of the decisions of the Court of the land? This was but an illustration of what might be expected if parties were not amenable or responsible to the control of this House. Assuming that it would cost $50,000 or $60,000 every five years to make this voters list, that sum was altogether insignificant as compared with the importance of having a sound and wholesome control over the basis of the representation of the people, which was so essential to the dignity of Parliament, and was the foundation of the Parliament itself. He was surprised that the gentleman who took exception to the voting of public officials in Nova Scotia did not seem to know that these very officials had voted in virtue of a resolution of his.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he had objected to the motion to which the member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) referred and moved an amendment to it.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER contended that under that very amendment they had voted. If this House were going to adopt a franchise made not for us but for others who, according to their caprice, might so apply it as to suit one election, and then alter it to suit another, he felt that he should be failing in his duty if he had not pointed out these defects and illustrated them.

This bill also made another provision which was open to the gravest objection. It provided that to a class of officials over which the Government had not control should be delegated the most important functions. He would ask how often the present leader of the House had challenged the late government for having abused their powers in the appointment of returning officers. He had no hesitation in saying that these men and the agents employed by them had the control over the whole elections the moment this law passed. It violated the essential principles of Parliamentary Government, which made the Government responsible to Parliament for the use of its patronage. The moment this was passed parties irresponsible to this Parliament were put in a position to control the whole elections.

When the late Mr. Howe ran for a seat in the Cabinet the Attorney General of Nova Scotia was sent from Halifax to Windsor, a distance of forty-five miles, and gave to the Sheriff, who was also the returning officer, written directions on how to manage matters in relation to this House of Commons. Was not this sufficient to show that when the House was asked to divest itself of all power over the conduct and selection of returning officers, it was acting at variance with the dictates of experience and common sense?

Then we were told that when Sheriffs were disqualified, the vacant places should be filled by the Lieutenant-Governors in Council. For his part, he would rather a thousand times be left to the tender mercies of this Government than to the Government of Nova Scotia.

There was another point which did not commend itself to him, the abolition of nomination. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) believed in reform. He was an advanced Reformer. Still he believed that changes could be made for the worse as well as for the better. He had failed to hear any observation from the Minister of Justice which was sufficient to convince him of the advisability of the change. Those who knew England knew that we had no such necessities for the change as they had. It did honour to the people of Canada, to their intelligence and qualification to exercise the franchise, to know that one might search in vain for those collisions, riots and struggles, which had too often disgraced other countries.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: How about Quebec Centre?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER replied that we never had an election more calculated to stir up the deepest feelings than the last election, and he was proud to say that for a solitary case his hon. friend had had to go beyond it.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: What about the Charlevoix election?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the affair was not serious, as he had never heard of it. If there was only one solitary instance, it confirmed more strongly the ground which he had taken. Upon polling days people were liable to come into sharper collision than on nomination days.

He would say that many features of the speeches of the hon. member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake) had been generally read with much interest, and much valuable information had been obtained from them. Was there then to be no opportunity for having

questions discussed in public? He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had had twenty years' experience of political struggles, and had seen nothing but good come from the occasion when, face to face, public men discussed questions appertaining to the prosperity and progress of the country.

He believed that he had about done finding fault. The bill contained several matters to which he could not take exception. Simultaneous polling and other features were introduced last session. He regretted that this principle was not more present to the minds of the Government when they conducted the recent elections, when they were pledged to carry out this principle so far as the law would permit. The unfair advantage to be derived from the fixing of elections was never more used than then. Before a vote was polled in Nova Scotia the hon. gentlemen had placed Nova Scotia at an unfair advantage by making that Province have to face the votes of Ontario and Quebec.

Mr. MILLS: How about 1872?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the hon. gentleman might search all the records of the past Government, and he would find nothing analogous to it. There never was any occasion when any Government was so unjust and took so unfair an advantage of their opponents. The writs were out in ample time to allow of the elections going on at the same time as those of Ontario and Quebec. As regarded the ballot, the House would without doubt accept it. When his right hon. friend had introduced his election bill he had said the ballot would be an open question. His hon. friend the Premier had said the right hon. gentleman was a recent convert. He thought that he would find upon his own side a recent conversion. His right hon. friend had thought that after the ballot had been adopted in England, it would be impossible to withstand it here. He said, if the House adopted the principle, measures would be taken to carry it out. The reason why his right hon. friend's election bill had not become law was that he had withdrawn it in order to have the clauses regarding the ballot more carefully considered.

There was one other point, and only one which needed a passing word, and that was a new feature—the abolition of the property qualification. With this he entirely concurred. In this hon. friend had only copied the example of Nova Scotia. Although there was a property qualification there, it was not large enough, being only the same as that of the electors, viz., $150, real estate. He was only sorry he could not give the same cordial support to all the provisions of the law as he could to this.

It being six o'clock, the House rose.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. FLYNN resumed the debate on the Election Bill. He said that he thought the measure was just such a one as the country required. He explained the system of revising the voters lists followed in Nova Scotia, and went on to show that the election Courts of that Province did not afford a remedy for the evil of partisan assessors rating the property of electors too low, and the Legislature had to pass a law under which electors who swore that their property was not valued high enough could have their names put upon the voters lists. If the Government of Nova Scotia had assumed an attitude of antagonism to the Government of which the hon. gentleman was a member, the hon. gentleman and his friends were to blame for it. They thought they would be able to crush the Government of Nova Scotia out of existence, but they failed. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Government of Nova Scotia was now as firmly established in power and in the hearts of their fellow countrymen as any Government could possibly be, while the Province of Nova Scotia, like all the other Provinces of the Dominion, when it had an opportunity of pronouncing upon the conduct of the hon. gentleman and his friends, sent them to this House with the miserable following they had now at their backs. (*Loud cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that if the House and the country had been fortunate enough to have sooner the benefit of the eloquence of the hon. gentleman who had just sat down, he (Mr. Flynn) would have not been surprised at the language of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper). He denied that in passing this Bill Government were abandoning the powers of regulating the franchise. The House had not exercised that function for many years.

He repudiated the idea that there was anything degrading in a difference being allowed to exist in the franchise of constituencies which elected the members of this House. He could not understand the observation of the hon. gentleman to that effect; it did not seem to him to be a reasonable observation. They had been each elected in their own Provinces by those persons who were considered possessed of the proper qualification to do so. The power of fixing the franchise was delegated to the various Local Governments because of the confidence reposed in the Local legislatures. If it turned out that they abused this power, this House had the power of taking it out of their hands.

The hon. gentleman and his friends had an opportunity of dealing with this question, but they found it rather a difficult task. Twice in speeches from the Throne they had been told by the late Government that this matter must be settled; twice, at least, they had made attempts to equalize the franchise; one Bill went into Committee and never came out of it, the other never went in. And why was this? Because the promises of the hon. gentleman opposite were false, and because it was more difficult to establish a uniform franchise than the hon. gentleman had supposed. The fact was that when the friend of the hon. gentleman attempted to settle that matter they managed to displease everybody, and to please nobody.

He was not at all above looking in countries with Republican institutions for light upon subjects of this kind, and the constitution of the United States of America exhibited, in this respect, the marks of that wisdom which distinguished the great and able men who framed it. The franchise for the Senate in that country was the same franchise for a vote for the Legislature. The principle had been maintained for ninety-one years and he was not aware that in any instance it had been found to fail. In fact the hon. member had not been able to cite an instance in which it had, and he had no doubt that he was too acute not to have done so if he could. In no instance

had the United States departed from the principle, and in no instance was any Local Legislature known to be guilty of that which the hon. gentleman charged upon the Local Government of his own Province. To be sure the tendency in the States had been to make the franchise more free and unrestricted than in this country, but the principle had been adhered to all the same.

To the experience of that great country we were quite entitled to look, and it would meet such objections as were raised by the hon. member for Cumberland. He pointed out that in this country there were very great differences in the employment and pursuit of the people; there were consequently very great differences in what constituted their wealth. In the hon. gentleman's own Province the people were largely sea-faring, and their property was principally on the sea, and not on land. The real property qualification which would work in that Province would not apply at all in Ontario where real estate formed the principal element of the people's wealth. The hon. gentleman did not think it of very great consequence what the qualifications in British Columbia and Manitoba should be. He (Hon. Mr. Blake) hoped the hon. members from these Provinces would note the compliment paid them.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: I did not say that it was of slight consequence. I said these Provinces might be made an exception.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE pointed to the inconsistency of the statement even as corrected. Did the hon. gentleman mean to tell the hon. members for these Provinces that they were going thus to be degraded, that they were to represent constituencies where the qualification was less than in the rest of the Dominion and that they were to be set apart from the rest of the members and that they must get a little pin for them? (*Cheers and laughter.*) Why should one man's feelings be branded by being denied election on the grand principle of an equal franchise? (*Hear, hear.*)

He (Hon. Mr. Blake) had visited some thirteen counties during the late election, taking occasion to state to the electors in them all about this matter, and instead of there being any objection to the principle he believe it commended itself not only the good sense of the Province of Ontario, but also the good sense of the House. (*Cheers.*) The hon. member for Cumberland would therefore have to trust himself to the tender mercies of his own Province, if he were going again to be elected to this Chamber.

He ridiculed the idea of appointing the Sheriff returning officer by statute being any violation of the principle of responsible Government, and pointed to the outrageous conduct of the Returning Officer in the Peterborough and Muskoka cases in 1872 as instances of the results which might be expected from the system formerly proposed by the hon. gentleman and his friends when in power, and now advocated by him so strongly. He was opposed to giving any Government whatever the power to influence an election to the extent which they could obtain by having in their hands the appointment of the Returning officers. Although he had as much confidence in his friends of the present Administration as it was possible for him to have in any Government, he was opposed to the principle, and he did not desire to see even in their hands this power.

He, therefore, supported the proposition of the Government most cordially. He quite admitted that if officers who were in a position of permanency of a non-political character could be found to do the duties of returning officers it would be better, but they had no such officers. He had had considerable experience of Government-appointed Returning officers himself, and on the whole had not much to complain of, although they did not always act exactly as he could have desired. He denied Hon. Mr. Tupper's assertion that there had been any abuse of the old law by the present Government, and pointed out the scandalous manner in which the Government of the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald had manipulated the election under the power it gave them, pointing out especially that the Nova Scotia elections in 1872 were kept back until the Government had gained almost every constituency which supported them in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that these elections were not much later than the others.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the first return in the West in 1872 was on the 26th of July and that the first return in Nova Scotia was on the 8th of August. The same proportion was maintained as in the last election.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that one thing more he remembered about the Nova Scotia elections was that they terminated in 1867 as they did in 1874 in one important particular—they sent the hon. member for Cumberland back to Ottawa alone, and he (Hon. Mr. Blake) was not surprised that the hon. gentleman found himself a little sore over the result of the elections in 1874, as he did over the result in 1867.

Why were the Nova Scotia elections delayed on this occasion? In the first place, it was found that by law they must take place simultaneously, so that a certain time must be given for the despatch of the writs to the most remote part of the Province. It was also found that elections must take place in all the Maritime Provinces at the same time, and there was a delay, until the writs could be sent to them. It was impossible to have the elections entirely simultaneously throughout the whole of the Dominion, and so they were pushed on, as well in the inland as in the Maritime Provinces, as quickly as possible; but it happened that the elections in Nova Scotia were a week behind what they were in the other Provinces—not weeks, as formerly.

It was to be remembered that when one of his (Hon. Mr. Blake's) hon. friends proposed to this House a few years ago, not simultaneous polling for the whole Dominion, but that the polling should be simultaneous in every Province, the then Government opposed it. Mail communication had been improved since that time, and more extended provision could now be made with reference to simultaneous polling; and it came with the worst possible grace from the hon. gentleman, who gave such a picture of the power they retained and insisted on retaining—(Hon. Mr. Tupper: No)—yes, insisted on retaining, for their votes are recorded in that sense.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: What does the hon. gentleman say to his own colleagues, who voted with us on principle?

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: Sir, I have no colleagues. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) With reference to the nominations, his (Hon.

Mr. Blake's) experience had not been such as to lead him to believe that they were calculated to afford opportunities for the political enlightenment of the people. He remembered that in 1867 he went a distance of 700 miles to attend his nomination, and the Returning officer allowed him ten minutes to enlighten his constituents with reference to his political views. The next time he was allowed twenty minutes, and the last time the Returning officer proposed, first of all, to give the candidates half an hour, but because the crowd clamoured very loudly for a longer time he consented to give them three quarters of an hour. He had himself seen no disturbances at nominations, but he knew there had been riots in Quebec and in Charlevoix.

He did not see why they should not, under the proposed law, practically obtain all the benefits of a gathering of the electors if they desired it. All that was proposed by the Bill was that the nomination should be in writing and in a certain form, and he did not see anything to prevent the holding of public meetings on the day of nomination. Meetings of the electors of both parties could, by mutual arrangement, be held on that day, if desired, but the principal objections he had to public nominations was that they afforded the opportunity of making sham nominations. These were made, he believed, by persons having an interest in bringing about a contest on account of certain incidental profits they would derive. Such persons could be thwarted by requiring those who nominated candidates to deposit a small sum, say $100, or something like that, to be forfeited in case the candidate did not enter on the contest.

He believed that if a division took place on the leading features of the Bill, it would be found that they had, if not a unanimous, at least an almost unanimous support from both sides of the House. (*Applause.*)

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he agreed with a great deal that his hon. friend who had just sat down had said. He thought that if this Parliament were to give the people as liberal a franchise for this House as they had for their own local House, this Legislature would be the more likely to have their affections than if they did otherwise.

The only feature in the Bill to which he had any serious objection was the provision for voting by ballot. He had always considered this a sneaking, un-British mode of voting, and nothing which had occurred in connection with it in any other portion of the Empire had let him to change his opinion in this respect. He believed also that it would encourage corruption and dishonesty, because under that system a man would be able to take money to vote for one candidate, but go and vote for the rival candidate, and nobody but himself need know anything about it. (*Laughter.*) He held that the Bill did not provide for doing away with the property qualifications, for it was provided for by an Imperial Act that there should be such a qualification, and this Bill could not affect that provision.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that provision with regard to that point had been made in the original draft of the Bill, but in the law clerk's office the words had been left out.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the suggestion of his hon. friend would be acted upon.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) went on to say he was opposed to doing away with the public nomination, notwithstanding any riots which may have occurred in Quebec or elsewhere. He thought it convenient to have a public meeting of electors of both parties on the nomination day, and he believed that if the people of Ontario were to be polled from one end of it to the other, they would be generally in favour of the nominations being conducted as they had hitherto been. He hoped his hon. friends in the Government would consider the advisability of allowing the system of nominating candidates to remain as at present.

He thought that too much discretion was allowed by the Bill to Deputy Returning officers, with respect to accepting or rejecting votes when the persons presenting them were not known to them.

He proceeded at some length to criticise the provisions of the Bill with reference to the liability of candidates for the corrupt acts of their agents. Apart from his objection to the ballot and the other objections to which he had referred, he thought the bill carried out very fairly the views of his hon. friend the Minister of Justice. He considered the ballot unmanly—did not believe it would prevent bribery, and should vote against that portion of the Bill.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) was very pleased to hear the tone in which his hon. friend from Cardwell had discussed the bill. He was glad that they were at length about to have the ballot, which he defended from the attacks that had been made upon it by the hon. gentleman who had just taken his seat.

Mr. DYMOND supported the bill, and replied to the charge of the hon. member for Cardwell that the ballot was un-British and sneaking in its character. He thought it would provide against bribery and corruption, and he read the letter of a man who professed to have been offered a dollar bill for his vote from the hon. member for Cardwell. (*The reading of the letter was received with hisses.*)

With regard to the abolition of the public nomination, he agreed with the hon. member for Cardwell. He could not remember any case, in Ontario, on nomination day of violence or bad conduct. He hoped the members who wished for that abolition would be content to have it in their own Province, and leave that of Ontario alone. With regard to the oath-taking, he suggested that the oath, which comprised a great many diverse articles, should be split into two, and that they should have one oath for identification and another for the purpose of providing against irregularity in the registry, which the returning officer was bound to administer to those who might have taken $20, more or less, to stimulate their political bias.

Mr. PLUMB said there were certain portions of the bill in which they were all interested. The first of these was the provision abolishing duplicate voting. This, he hoped, would meet with the acceptance of the House, because it was unfair in principle and worked unequally. This, he also suggested, should be extended to local elections. He proposed that some means should be adopted to provide for an appeal from the voters lists taken from the assessment rolls, and for an examination of the assessment rolls, in order to prevent the names of persons not entitled to vote being put upon the rolls when in the hands of unscrupulous men. He

considered this system was a greater engine of corruption than bribery at elections.

He denounced the ballot system as being an un-British and a sneaking way of recording votes, and pointed out the evils which existed in connection with this system of voting in the United States. He maintained that the suffrage should be the same in every Province, and that every man should sit in Parliament upon the same conditions.

Mr. DOMVILLE thought the Act a charming one, and complete in every respect. He spoke as a member elected by ballot. He objected to the clause providing for an election becoming void upon corrupt practices being proved against either the candidate or his agent, and to other clauses relating to treating, hiring of vehicles, et cetera. He objected to the Act in another respect, and that was the great expense it would entail upon the country.

Mr. YOUNG thought the government had faithfully fulfilled their promise in the bill now before the House. He believed that bill would receive the warmest support of the members of that House and the country generally. He was prepared to hear the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) attack the Government on the matter of simultaneous elections; but, if they ought to be satisfied with any particular part of the bill, it was that.

He could not agree with the objections of the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) against voting by ballot, and he thought that on the whole the ballot was a far preferable system to open voting. He thought they should have the true feeling of the voter, however poor he might be, provided for. It had been tried in a great many of the principal countries on the continent, and had been found successful. It provided in a great measure against bribery and corruption. He showed the fallacy of a vote being in the nature of a trust given into the hands of a voter by the community, and the community having the right to know how the individual voter executed his trust. That he characterized as a philosophic fallacy of John Stuart Mill.

The bill of the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) was, he considered, a very close approximation to a perfect measure. He denied that the system of open ballot, as practised in the States, enabled bribery and corruption to be practised more extensively than under the open system. He confessed to a lingering feeling for the nomination day, where the views of the candidates were freely and openly expressed to the constituents, although in many places the violence that was indulged in formed a strong argument against it. He congratulated the Government on the excellent measure before them, the main features of which had been asked for by, and would be very satisfactory to, the country when it passed—as it would pass, by a large majority. If it did not secure purity of election to the country it could be only the fault of the people themselves.

Mr. FARROW was in favour of the bill as a whole, although with some of its details he did not exactly coincide. He denounced the conduct of the hon. member for York North (Mr. Dymond), who had fired his darts at a member on that side of the House and censured his taste in reading his private correspondence. He upheld the speech of the member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), and he thought that that gentleman was right in regard to the Dominion suffrage. He thought the ballot was good, and especially commended the clause of the Minister of Justice as to simultaneous election.

He thought, however, that the bill did not go far enough. He would like to see a clause inserted preventing any Minister or member of the Ontario Government from going round doing "missionary work". (*Laughter.*) They talked of bribery; he would rather have $100,000 spent against him than he would have a speech from the member for Bruce South against him. (*Laughter.*) He was in favour of abolishing the public nominations, of compulsory voting, and of women's suffrage. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. OLIVER hoped that the Minister of Justice would not do away with the nomination day. It was a question of very great interest, as it brought the electors of all sections of an electoral district together, which was attended with very beneficial effects.

He opposed universal suffrage, and hoped the Minister of Justice would not take away a property qualification for candidates. The ballot, he contended, provided against intimidation being used against the employees of large firms, and was therefore beneficial.

On the motion for adjournment of the debate, moved by **Mr. MILLS**,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he did not wish to press the House, and, after the very friendly criticism by hon. gentlemen opposite, he did not feel it would be just to those who were not present that evening to press the second reading of the bill that night. He therefore agreed to an adjournment of the debate for the purpose of giving those not present the opportunity of speaking on the subject.

The House adjourned at 11 o'clock.

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NOTICE OF MOTION

Mr. BABY—Address—An Act passed by the Legislature of Ontario, in the 36th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled An Act respecting the Municipal Loan Fund debts, and respecting certain payments to Municipalities, together with copies of all correspondence between the Governments of Canada and Ontario on the subject of the Municipal Loan Fund; and of all Orders in Council respecting the allowance or disallowance of the said Act.

Mr. JETTÉ—On Wednesday next—Address to His Excellency the Governor General for copies of all the correspondence in the possession of the Government relating to the sum voted in the first session of 1873 to meet the costs of an appeal to Her Majesty's Privy Council, with reference to the constitutionality of the Common School law of New Brunswick, passed in 1871, and a statement of all sums paid for the purpose above mentioned.

Mr. MILLS gives notice that after the House goes again into Committee to consider his resolution in reference to an amendment of the law relating to the constitution of the Senate, he will move the following resolutions:—*Resolved*,—That it is expedient to

present an humble address to Her Most Gracious Majesty, praying that she would be pleased to cause legislation to be initiated in the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland to provide as follows:—

That the present mode of constituting the Senate of Canada is inconsistent with the Federal principle in our system of Government, and is in other material respects defective.

That the provision of the British North America Act of 1867, in relation to the Constitution, be repealed.

That the Senate of Canada shall consist of the Senators appointed for life by the Crown before and such as may from time to time be elected by the Legislative Assemblies of the different Provinces of Canada, under the provisions of such Imperial Act.

That the Province of Ontario shall be represented by twelve Senators so elected; the Province of Quebec by twelve; the Province of New Brunswick by five; the Province of Nova Scotia by five; the Province of Prince Edward Island by two; the Province of Manitoba by two; the Province of British Columbia by two; the Province of Newfoundland, if and when admitted into the Union, by — Senators; and any new Province which may be formed in the territories of Canada, by such a number of Senators as may be fixed by an Act of the Parliament of Canada providing for the creation of such Province, under the British North America Act of 1871.

That the members of the Senate shall be elected by the Legislative Assemblies of the respective Provinces for a period of eight years from the first of July next after their election, and until the day prior to the return of the writ of a successor.

That in the Province of Ontario the Legislative Assembly shall elect three Senators every alternate year; that in the Province of Quebec the Legislative Assembly shall elect three Senators every alternate year; that in the Province of New Brunswick the Legislative Assembly shall, upon their first election, elect three Senators and two Senators each alternate four years; that in the Province of Nova Scotia the Legislative Assembly shall, upon their first election, elect three Senators, and the fourth year thereafter two Senators, and in like manner it shall elect three Senators and two Senators each alternate four years. That the Legislative Assemblies of Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia shall each elect one Senator for their respective Provinces every fourth year.

That in the election of Senators each member shall have but one vote irrespective of the number of Senators to be elected.

That the qualification of a Senator shall be as follows:—He shall be of the full age of thirty years. He shall be a natural born subject of Her Majesty, or a naturalized subject for not less than five years. He shall be a resident of the Province for which he is elected for not less than three years prior to his election. He shall be legally or equitably seized as of freehold for his own use and benefit of lands or tenements held in free and common socage, or seized or possessed for his own use and benefit of lands or tenements held in roture within the Province for which he is appointed, of the value of four thousand dollars over and above all rents, dues, debts, charges, mortgages and encumbrances due or payable out of, or charged on, or affecting the same, less the value of his personal property.

That no member of the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Assembly, of any Province shall be eligible for election as Senator.

That no person shall be eligible for election to the Senate who is a public defaulter, or who had been convicted of felony, or of any infamous crime.

That the seat of a Senator shall become vacant in any of the following cases:—If he fails to give attendance in the Senate for two successive Sessions of Parliament; if he ceases to be a resident of the Province for which he is elected; if he ceases to have the necessary property qualification; if he becomes a subject or citizen of any foreign State; if he is attainted of treason, or convicted of felony or any infamous crime; if he accepts any office of employment; not being the office of a Minister of the Crown, the acceptance of which would, if he were a member of the House of Commons, vacate his seat as such member.

That the Senate shall have the same power to expel unworthy members which by the law of Parliament pertains to the House of Commons.

That a member of the Senate shall not vacate his seat by accepting the office of Minister of the Crown.

That a general election of the House of Commons shall make a new Parliament.

That the Senate shall elect one of their number at the beginning of each Parliament as Speaker of the Senate, who shall hold office until the end of the Parliament, unless the office become vacant by the expiration of the term of his election by death, resignation, or otherwise—in which case there shall be a new election of Speaker for the remainder of the Parliament.

That in case of a vacancy before the expiration of the time for which an election has taken place, a new Senator shall be elected for the remainder of the unexpired term.

That if a vacancy occur not more than — months before the expiration of a term, no election shall be made for the remainder of that term.

That a Senator shall be eligible for re-election, to take effect upon the expiration of his term.

That if any question arises respecting the qualification of a member or a vacancy in the Senate the same shall be determined by the Senate.

That until the Parliament of Canada otherwise provides, the presence of at least ten Senators, including the Speaker, shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Senate for the exercise of its powers.

That questions arising in the Senate shall be decided by a majority of votes, and the Speaker shall not vote except when the voices are equal.

That in cases of the absence of the Speaker of the Senate for forty-eight consecutive hours, the Senate may elect another of its members to act as Speaker, and the member so elected shall, during

the continuance of such absences of the Speaker, have and execute all the powers, privileges, and duties of Speaker.

That the Governor General shall issue writs to the Lieutenant-Governor of each Province for the election of Senators in case of vacancies. Where the vacancy is created by the expiration of a term, the writs shall issue at such time that the election may be held during the session of the Legislative Assembly next preceding the date of the expiration of the term; and where the vacancy is created by any of the causes hereinbefore stated, the writ shall issue as soon as may be after the creation of the vacancy, and said writ be transmitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of each Province and in all cases the election shall be held during the session of the Legislative Assembly. If the Legislative Assembly be in session at the date of the receipt of the writ, and if the Legislative Assembly be not in session at the time, then during the next ensuing session thereof, and the writs shall be returned to the Governor General — days after the election.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 22, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions in favour of a prohibitory liquor law were presented, **Mr. RYAN** presenting one from Montreal containing upwards of three thousand signatures.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) presented three petitions from the City of Toronto, praying that a prohibitory liquor law be not passed, and **Mr. WILKES** presented one from 300 inhabitants of Toronto Centre in favour of it.

Several Private Bill petitions were also presented.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) presented a petition for amendments to the Act of incorporation of the Ontario Bank.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) presented a petition from the Mayor and citizens of Montreal, praying for amendment to Act 36 Vic., Cap. 61.

Mr. IRVING presented a petition from Edward Gurney and others, for an Act of Incorporation for the Neutral Link Railway Company, to run from Lake Nipissing to Muskoka.

* * *

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) submitted the second report of the Committee on a Prohibitory Liquor Law, recommending the appointment of a Commission to proceed to such States of the Union as have a prohibitory liquor law, take evidence as to the working of the measure and report to the House.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:—

Mr. JODOIN—To grant certain powers to the Richelieu River Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company.

Mr. McDONNELL—To amend Act 35 Vic., Cap. 17, relating to polling districts in the County of Inverness.

Mr. COOK—To provide for the examination and licensing of persons employed as engineers elsewhere than on steamboats.

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) laid on the table the correspondence relating to the dismissal of Mr. Munro from the Postmastership of Lanark, and the re-instatement of Mr. Robinson.

Mr. HAGGART enquired if the hon. gentleman did not intend to make any explanations. (*Order.*)

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said he did not intend at this point to make any observations, and he thought the papers would in themselves be a justification of the conduct of the Government.

* * *

GASPÉ ELECTION

The SPEAKER announced that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery was in attendance with the poll-books and other papers connected with the Gaspé election, in accordance with the order of the House.

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved that the papers be read.

The papers were then taken and read, in order that such portions of them, as it was thought necessary, should appear in the *Journals of the House*. No further action was taken in the matter.

* * *

GOVERNMENT LANDS

Mr. BIGGAR enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to recognize the rights acquired by the persons who have for many years past been in occupation of the Government lands on Presqu'Ile Point, in the Township of Brighton, in the County of Northumberland, and Province of Ontario, by granting them leases or patents upon their paying the government the value of the land before the improvements.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the subject was under the consideration of the Department. No conclusion had yet been arrived at upon the point.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD reminded the hon. gentleman that these were Ordnance lands, and could not be sold under their value.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the case was correctly stated by the right hon. member for Kingston. He (Hon. Mr. Smith) had mistaken the question.

FREE TRANSPORT

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to provide greater facilities for the transport of emigrants from Canada to the Northwest, so as to give effect to the resolution adopted unanimously by the Select Committee on Immigration and Colonization appointed by the House of Commons during the session of 1873, and declaring that in the opinion of the Committee free passages should be given from Quebec to Fort Garry to indigent immigrants from Europe and the United States desirous of settling in the Northwest, as well as to indigent inhabitants of any Province of the Dominion desirous of settling in Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government were providing all the facilities possible, but they could not undertake to provide a free passage to Manitoba. The expense would be too great. They would give all the facilities in their power, however, and with one particular class, that is the Mennonites, there was something amounting to a contract which had to be observed by the Government.

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TELEGRAPH LINES

Mr. ROSS (Durham East) enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to take the telegraph lines into their own hands as England and other foreign countries have done, and if so, when?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said such was not the intention of the Government.

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VOLUNTEER DRILL

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to form brigade camps during the present season, or whether the annual drill will take place at the headquarters of the respective battalions or companies.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria): The matter is engaging the attention of the Government. (*Hear, Hear.*)

* * *

INFORMATION FOR IMMIGRANTS

Mr. DELORME enquired whether it is the intention of the Government, for the diffusion of knowledge of all that pertains to this country, to add to all that has been published heretofore, also a list of most of the articles considered as necessaries of life, mechanics' tools, horticultural and agricultural instruments, seeds, etc., with the trade prices of all these articles, so that intending immigrants from Europe may be more satisfied.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government were publishing everything they thought desirable or necessary, in order to give correct information for the guidance of intending emigrants in England. If anything else could be suggested by the hon. gentleman, the Government would be very glad to publish it; but, so far as they could judge everything had been done in order to accomplish what the hon. gentleman desired.

THE RAILWAY AT ST. JOHN

Mr. DOMVILLE enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to extend the Government railway from Shediac to St. John down to the ballast wharf at St. John; whether any portion of such work has been commenced; if so, whether such work is suspended; and if so, the reason for such suspension; and when they expect the connection to deep water at the ballast wharf will be completed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the extension of that railway to the places mentioned depended upon circumstances yet to be developed. He might say, however, that unless the City Council consented to do something more than they had as yet shown a disposition to do, it was not likely the extension would take place. The work was not suspended up to the barrack ground. It would be completed up to that point in all probability, so that the accommodation necessary for shipyards would be ensured, and shunting tracks ground provided.

The reason for the suspension was, as he had stated, the apparent disposition of the City Council to exact terms to which the Government could not agree. The accommodation, he considered, would not be sufficient to justify the Government in expending such a large sum of money. It had also been considered that it was quite possible a mistake was made in endeavouring to reach deep water at that point, instead of running the track to deep water between Rankin Wharf and Navy Island. The Government were prepared to bridge the Harbour at that point, if other railway companies would bear their share of the expense.

* * *

THE BARRACK GROUND, CHATHAM

Mr. STEPHENSON moved for correspondence relating to Government property in the Town of Chatham, known as the Barrack Ground. It had been considered that this ground should be reserved for Military purposes; but he had recently been told that the Government had sold a portion of it, and that the military shed which was to have been erected was to be abandoned. The people of Chatham believed that if the land was to be sold they should have the option of the purchase of it for a public park.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE had no objection to the motion. The only correspondence which had occurred was with regard to a small corner lot, which had been sold to the County Council for $1,180.

In reply to Mr. Stephenson, he said he was not aware that any protest had been sent in to the Government. If there had been, it should be brought down.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD called the attention of the Premier to the fact that at the time the Ordnance Lands were conveyed by the Imperial Government to the Government of Canada they were arranged to be divided into two classes, one class to be required for purposes of defence and the other sold, at not less than its value, for the purpose of supporting the militia or military force in Canada in accordance with Col. Jervois' report.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the subject had engaged the anxious consideration of the Government on several occasions lately, and they had decided some days ago to submit a measure to the House in order to provide some system of investing the money derived from this source in a special fund. (*Hear, hear.*) He explained that in reference to Logan's Farm, near Montreal, which was formerly let at a mere nominal rent, the Government had now to redeem it for ten times the money formerly paid, making a special provision that whenever they wanted to take possession of it they could do so upon a day's notice. He stated that the late Government had sold the property at London for 50 per cent less than its value, although, he admitted, there was a stipulation attached that it was only to be used as a public park. The property in Chatham was not needed for military purposes, and it might fairly be put in the market.

In any case where public bodies required a small amount of land, it would be well to give it them at a valuation, but when disposing of it to private parties, it should always be put up at public auction. In this case, if the Town Council desired to purchase it, their desire would receive full consideration at the hands of the Government. In no case would it be sold to private parties without being advertised for public competition.

Mr. STEPHENSON said the Corporation of Chatham would pay as much for this property as anybody else, and he thought they should have the first chance of purchase. For his part, he would desire to see the land reserved for military purposes, and he was sure that the Volunteers of the County of Chatham desired to have the land reserved for that object.

Mr. MILLS said he knew something of the transaction referred to. The County Council of Kent was not satisfied with its present registry office, thinking it was in too close proximity to other buildings, and without sufficient protection to the public documents it contained against destruction by fire. Several parties were willing and anxious to sell property to them for that purpose, but desired to have an exorbitant price for it. The public convenience would be consulted by selling them this site for their Registry Office, and the value of the property would really be enhanced by the erection of the building upon it.

Mr. WALKER defended the late Government with regard to the sale of the Ordnance Lands in London, and asserted that their City Council had not a particularly good bargain of it after all.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSION

Mr. RYAN moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government and Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, with a copy of the letters of dismissal of Messrs. Delisle, Workman, Hudon and Ryan from the said Commission; also for copies of any letters and telegrams on the same subject between the Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie and Dorion and the Hon. John Young, one of the Harbour Commissioners.

In speaking to his motion, he, in somewhat warm terms, detailed the proceedings which took place before the Montreal Harbour Board. He contended that, on the demand of the Government, this Board gave to the Government what they considered most ample and satisfactory information, and indeed with good grounds, for, on the application of the Secretary to Government for some little money to pay for extra expenses, it was cheerfully accorded; but, since then, they had received from the Minister of Public Works such a letter as no gentleman would send to his lackey, putting certain questions which he here read to the House. He (Mr. Ryan) argued that the Board had made the best bargain possible, not only on the ground of cheapness, but on the ground of the obtainment of the dredges without any possible delay.

In the course of his remarks he inveighed against the Hon. John Young as the cause of the trouble and also charged the Government with acting discourteously to the Board. He continued to say that, although "to the victors belonged the spoils" and it was perfectly legitimate for them to remove himself and his colleagues, he thought that they should not by subterfuge endeavour to fasten upon them unwarranted charges. He congratulated himself and the members of the House that the course of the Government did not meet with the approval of the City of Montreal, as was evidenced at the late meeting of the Board of Trade, when the then President brought the matter before that body.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE took Mr. Ryan severely to task for his attack on Mr. Young, which he said he would not have dared to make had the latter been present. He styled the attack as gross and scandalous. With regard to Mr. Ryan's pretension that Messrs. Lynardo & Co.'s offer had not been a tender, he quoted from the minutes of the Harbour Board to show that they had treated it as a tender. He censured the Board for nothing special, excepting their giving of the contracts to parties who had endeavoured to cheat the country, and at the same time drew attention to the fact of the Board treating people from England and Scotland as foreigners, when, at this time, they gave a contract to people in the United States. He thought, in view of the fact, it was high time for the Government to interfere. He denied that he had been discourteous to the Board, and concluded that, if Mr. Ryan were not satisfied with the course which had been pursued, he could take any step he thought proper to test public opinion. He had no objection to this motion.

Mr. RYAN made a few remarks in reply.

The motion was then carried.

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SANITARY STATISTICS

Mr. BROUSE moved for a Select Committee to consider the propriety of asking for legislation with a view to establishing a Bureau of Sanitary Statistics, the said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Holton, Pâquet, Robitaille, Mills, Ferguson, Forbes, Burpee (Sunbury), De Cosmos, Dymond, Cameron (Huron South), Cunningham, De St-Georges, and Brouse. He pointed out that a deeper interest was manifested in this question now than formerly. In Montreal, a Sanitary Association had been established, the result of which had been very satisfactory. The sphere of such local Associations was, however, limited, and it was desired to establish a Central Board at Ottawa, where a storehouse of useful

information might be found which would give a tone and an impulse to the local Associations. Both France and England had taken steps in this direction. He hoped the Committee would report in such a way as to induce the Government to give their attention to the subject.

If a Sanitary Bureau was established, he desired that it should disseminate among the people information with regard to health; should encourage works on hygiene and scientific experiments; should bring about the compilation of statistics and any information relative to zymotic diseases and epidemics of every nature and the best means to prevent their spread; and should consider the diseases common to artisans resulting from confinement to shops and overwork, the drainage of cities, the analysis of the soil, the hygiene of our homes, schools, hospitals, and public buildings, crowding and employment of children in manufactures, and other matters.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. BROUSE resumed his speech. He said that he believed that in this Bureau could be accumulated facts which would be of very much use in combating that great evil of our land, intemperance. Measures of this sort had been made use of to encourage immigration to Minnesota, by showing that the climate of that State was hostile to consumption, and to Colorado by showing that its climate was a health-giving one for invalids. He believed that we had within our Dominion localities in which the climate was most healthful; and this being the case, it would tend very much to encourage immigration to our shores if steps were taken to make the fact known. He considered the subject a most important one, and hoped the Government would give it their consideration.

Mr. PÂQUET, in seconding the motion, said that four Bureaus might be established—one on the Atlantic side of the Dominion, one on the Pacific, one in Montreal, and one in Toronto—and then there might be a central Bureau, to which the most important facts might be sent from the others. He stated that last year England lost 70,000 of her population by zymotic diseases. If we had a Sanitary Bureau such facts as these could be investigated, and preventive measures be more readily taken.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) suggested that if such a Department as this was established, the annual returns sent down from it might include statistics relating to the crime of the country. These would indicate the state of public morality.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) thought the matter to which the last speaker had alluded did not relate to the subject the mover of the resolution had brought before the House. He thought the House should feel very thankful to the hon. member for Grenville South (Mr. Brouse) for bringing this matter before them. He suggested that a Royal Commission might be appointed to make investigations with regard to the unsanitary condition of the country; and also that steps should be taken to ascertain the healthfulness of Canada as compared with other countries, remarking that it had been found in connection with the army that in that particular this country stood second among those to which British troops were sent. He thought also that enquiries should be made with a view to the prevention of insanity and consumption.

It was a question whether the establishment and maintenance of a Department like this might not be an unwarranted interference in affairs which were purely local. This was a point which should receive careful consideration.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was a matter of certainty that this Legislature could not cause the compilation of such statistics as were proposed by the hon. gentleman without going beyond its jurisdiction. That hon. gentleman was aware that in Ontario an attempt had been made to collect vital statistics of a certain kind, and that they had not been as successful as could have been desired. It had been productive of some good, but up to the present time the figures had not been so complete as to be reliable even as far as they went.

With reference to the army statistics, he said that these were not as reliable as some thought. To illustrate this he pointed out that drunkenness depended to a great extent on the facility with which means of becoming intoxicated were obtained, and if soldiers were stationed where they could get liquor easily there was likely to be more diseases than where it was less easily obtained.

The late Government had brought in a measure embodying the principle of this resolution, but owing to the fact that doubts were expressed as to whether the Dominion Legislature had jurisdiction with regard to the subject, it was then dropped. The present Government had not lost sight of the matter, but all he could say at present was that the subject was one which must occupy their early attention. It was not their intention to bring the matter before the House this session, because they had been compelled to confine their attention for the present to such matters as the interest of the country absolutely and immediately demanded at their hands.

The proposition of the hon. gentleman to appoint a Royal Commission commended itself to his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) mind; but he would not at present commit himself to any promise with regard to the matter. If next year the Government found that they had jurisdiction, and could control effectually the means of producing such results as were desired, they would take some such steps as the hon. gentleman suggested. Personally, he had to thank the hon. member from Grenville South, for bringing the matter before the House, and to compliment him on the very able manner in which he had done so.

Mr. BROUSE then, with the permission of the House, withdrew his motion.

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PRIVATE BILLS

The following Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to incorporate the International Transportation association—**Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West)**.

An Act to incorporate the Maritime Insurance Company—**Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West)**.

An Act to incorporate the Lochiel, Hawkesbury and L'Orignal Junction Railway Company—**Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry)**.

An Act to incorporate the Board of Trade of the town of Ingersoll—**Mr. OLIVER**.

An Act to authorize Joseph Meunier to build a toll bridge on the River L'Assomption, in the Province of Quebec.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company—**Mr. CARON**.

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ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH

Hon. Mr. BLAKE moved the second reading of the Bill to regulate the construction and maintenance of marine electric telegraphs. He stated the difficulties which had existed with regard to the landing of Atlantic telegraph cables in the Island of Newfoundland, owing to one company having had a monopoly hitherto, and said that the main object of the Bill was to initiate, on the part of the Dominion Government, a policy exclusive of such monopoly.

After some discussion, the order was allowed to stand.

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COUNTY OF HURON

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act 35 Vic., Cap. 13, by detaching the Township of Tuckersmith from the Centre riding to annex to the South riding of the County of Huron.

The Bill was read a second time.

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SUPPLY

On motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**,

The House went into Committee of Supply, when the following items were passed:—Arts, Agriculture and Statistics, Salaries and Contingent expenses of statistical office, Halifax, $4,100; salary of 316 Deputy-Registrars, Province of Nova Scotia, and allowance for getting Marriage Returns, $1,880; to meet expenses in connection with the care of Archives, $4,000; to meet expenses in connection with the organization of the Patent Record, $4,000; and $80,000 to meet the possible amount required in the fiscal year for the census, i.e., the unexpended balance of the year 1872-1873, which is to be carried forward, and which is estimated at $130,000 (amount actually carried forward).

Immigration and Quarantine:—Salaries of Immigration Agents and employees, $23,450; Salaries of Immigration Travelling Agents, $12,000; Medical Inspection of the Port of Quebec, $2,600; Quarantine, Grosse Isle, $12,900; Quarantine, St. John, New Brunswick, $3,400; Quarantine, Miramichi, New Brunswick, and Pictou, Nova Scotia, $2,000; Quarantine, Sydney and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, $2,000; Quarantine, Halifax, Nova Scotia, $5,260; Quarantine, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island $1,000—to meet expenses of further precautionary measures for the public health, $20,000; contingencies of Canadian and other regular agencies $14,000; travelling expenses of travelling agents, $14,000; total Immigration and Quarantine, $112,610. Grants in aid of the Provinces towards encouraging immigration;—Towards assisting immigration and meeting immigration expenses, and aid to the Mennonites, $245,000.

The sum of $15,178 for pensions was passed en bloc.

On the item of $35,000 for military salaries in the branch and district staffs,

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD desired some explanations on the general question of militia and defence.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE called attention to the fact that there was an increase in the first item caused by the determination of the Government to get a Major-General of the British Army to take command of the militia. They thought it desirable to have the militia on as good a footing as possible, and upon consultation with the authorities, it was thought that this plan would be the one which would be most likely to inspire the force with most thorough confidence in the Chief of the Department. Of course in connection with this there was a small increase of salary.

With regard to the proposed military school, he had long advocated some such a system. He pointed out that upon the only occasion when our militia were called into active service, there appeared to be something wanting, and our freedom from disaster upon that occasion was a great deal more owing to the personal qualities of the officers and men than to their military efficiency. He pointed to the good results arising from a thorough training in military and engineering tactics among officers in European countries and in the United States, and especially to the effects of the training given at West Point, in the Civil War in the latter country. It was the intention of the Government to establish such a school as should be sustained by a reasonable expenditure, and give as good an education as possible; and they hoped that the cadets would be able to fill, in consequence of that education, situations under the Government in connection with such works as the Dominion was engaged in at the present time. The sum asked for this Military College was only $40,000, and they hoped to avoid increasing the expenditure by utilizing the existing military stations.

The Government would be able, in locating the school, to place it at one or other of the places where there were lands set apart for military purposes. These places were Kingston, where there were buildings, and Montreal and Quebec. The school would be at whichever of these points was found most suitable and central.

An increase of $30,000 was asked for fortification and military grounds, which was caused by the necessity which existed for repairing the various forts. This would be for the meantime, and the question of fitting them up after on modern principles would have to be considered afterwards.

The Government had determined also to reduce the nominal force existing at the present, expending the same amount of money, but upon fewer men. He hoped, in conclusion, that the Government

would be enabled while taking this vote to make a considerable reduction in the actual expenditure.

In answer to Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated that the Major-General would assume the duties of the Adjutant General, and would have the assistance of the present Deputy Adjutant General.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD thought a great mistake would be made if they gave the present Deputy Adjutant General office work and the Major-General charge of the field work. He thought that officer would be in the way, and, if pretensions in the charge given to him, it would prevent the Imperial Government from sending out the best man at their disposal.

He cordially approved of the establishment of a military college, as it would tend to increase the efficiency of the officers. If the late war in the States proved anything, it proved that victory was on the side of the army commanded by the bravest and most scientific officers. He contended that no Volunteer officers had come to the front, or had made their mark except these who had been educated at West Point. The Northern and Southern armies were led by men who had been trained in their youth as soldiers. Therefore he cordially approved of the scheme of the hon. gentleman for a school of this kind, for, however brave the men might be, they were of little value unless they had skilled officers to lead them. The slight training their officers had was only enough to mislead them, and when they came into command they generally know very little.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said, in reference to the duties of the Major-General, that his hon. friend from Kingston looked upon that officer as the head of the Militia Department, but he did not understand that he was to act as commander-in-chief of the militia.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there would be a Deputy Adjutant General in each Military Department, but no Adjutant General. The Government would probably have to consider the whole organization of the force that was essential, but they did not feel justified, after a few months—he might almost say a few weeks—of office in commencing such a radical change in the staff which they might not perhaps be able to justify or defend to the country. The rank of the new commandant would not materially change the duties devolving upon his predecessors. That would, however, depend somewhat on what they found necessary in making the new arrangements in the office formerly held by the Adjutant General.

He was desirous of maintaining the same cordial relations with the Imperial army as ever. In the case of war, of course, the army would be commanded by the Imperial officer. He was glad his hon. friend had approved of the scheme for the military school, as he had never felt more clear as to the necessity of a public institution than for that.

Mr. WALKER did not think there would be any confusion, such as the right hon. member suggested, from the clashing of the Major-General with the officer sent from England. In case of war it was the custom in cases of equal rank for the senior officer to take command. He was glad, indeed, as a member of the force, to see the Government endeavouring to secure greater efficiency in the service.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD reiterated his statement that the appointment would be prejudicial to the interests of the service, for that officer could only be superseded by a superior officer, which circumstance might deprive them of the services of some of Her Majesty's finest officers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the same objection might be made against the Commander in Chief in England. The correction rested with the Executive.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) approved of the plan. He could not see that any confusion would arise between the officers.

The following militia items were adopted: Salaries of military branch and district staff, $35,000; salaries of brigade-majors, $28,500; allowances for drill instruction, $40,000; military college instruction, and three ordinary schools under district staff, $40,000; ammunition, $40,000; clothing, $25,000; military stores, $25,000; public armouries and care of arms, including the pay of storekeepers and caretakers, storemen, and the rents, fuel and light of public armouries, $52,000; drill, pay, and all other incidental expenses connected with the drill and training of the militia, $375,000; contingencies and general service not otherwise provided for, including assistance to rifle associations and bands of different corps, $63,000; targets (re-vote), $5,000; drill sheds and rifle ranges, $10,000; Extraordinary—gunboats, $5,000; maintenance of fortifications and buildings connected with military grounds, $50,000; for improved fire arms, Snider rifles and Martini-Henry rifles, $40,000; ordnance and equipment of A and B Batteries, Garrison Artillery and schools of gunnery, including salaries and allowances of the Inspector of artillery and warlike stores, and Commandant of A Battery at Kingston, and the Commandant of B Battery, and Inspector of Artillery, et cetera, for the Province of Quebec, $100,000. Total $953,500.

Dominion Forces, Manitoba; pay and maintenance of Dominion Forces in Manitoba, viz.; 543 officers, non-commissioned officers and men, including the expense of providing barrack accommodations and contingencies, $175,000. Mounted Police Manitoba; pay and contingencies, under 36 Vic., Cap. 35, estimated at $185,000. Grand total, $1,313,500.

The Committee rose, reported the resolution and asked leave to sit again.

* * *

AGENT GENERAL IN ENGLAND

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE placed on the table the Order in Council appointing Mr. Edward Jenkins, Chief Agent of Emigration in England.

* * *

THE ELECTION BILL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated that it was the intention of the Government to take up the adjourned discussion on the Election Bill tomorrow at three o'clock.

* * *

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

On the motion of **Mr. YOUNG**, the following resolution passed:

"That the public accounts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, together with the accounts and statement of receipts and the expenditure of the Dominion laid before the House by the Finance Minister."

The House adjourned at 10.35 p.m.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)—On Friday—Bill to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes.

Mr. SCHULTZ—On Monday next—An humble Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying for copies of all Acts passed and all appointments made by the Council for the Northwest Territories, together with all recommendations made by the said Council to the Dominion Government in reference to Indian treaties and Indian matters in the Northwest.

Mr. PALMER—On Friday next—An humble Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he may be pleased to be caused to be laid before the House a statement of the amount expended on the extension of the railway between Shediac and St. John to the ballast wharf at St. John, with an estimate of the amount that would be required to complete the work; also, copies of all estimates of the cost of the rights required from the city of St. John for the terminus; also copies of all motions and correspondence between any of the officers of the Corporation of the said city and the government in relation to acquiring such rights; also, all correspondence with any persons for the purpose of acquiring the rights necessary for a deep water terminus at any other point in the said harbour, with a copy of all plans and estimates for acquiring the necessary rights and the building of the works necessary to carry out the said projects.

Mr. McDONNELL—On Friday next—Address for all papers and correspondence, including the original contract, between the Government and the Intercolonial Railway Commissioners and the contractors for the construction of Section 12 of the said road, and all claimants for money said to be done for such construction.

Mr. PALMER—On Friday next—Enquiry of the Ministry whether any and what steps have been taken by the Imperial Government for the appointment of a Commissioner to act with a Commissioner to be appointed by the United States of America, to settle the amount of compensation which should be paid by the latter for the fishery privileges conceded by the Washington Treaty, as provided in sections 22, 23, 24 and 25 of the said Treaty; also, whether any and what steps have been taken by the United States Government in relation to the said matter.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—On Friday next—For an address for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Imperial Government in relation to the transfer of Portage Island, at the entrance of Miramichi Bay, to the Government of Canada.

Mr. BORRON—On Friday next—For an address for correspondence relative to the navigation of Thunder Bay and Nipigon Bay, and reports of engineers on the length, character and grades of each line or section of the surveys made on the Canadian Pacific Railway, between Fort Garry and Long Lake, east of Lake Nipigon, also approximate estimates of the cost of making each of the two proposed main lines, one passing to the north and the other to the south of Lake Nipigon, between points on each side of the said lake, common to both; also of the cost of the Nipigon Bay Branch to the proposed main line north and south of Lake Nipigon respectively, also of the cost of deepening, et cetera, the channel of Nipigon River, from Nipigon Bay to Lake Huron, so as to render the same navigable for vessels drawing twelve feet of water; also an approximate estimate of the cost of constructing the Thunder Bay Branch to the main line; also a copy of S.J. Dawson's report or reports relating to a shorter description of railroad between Lake Superior and Fort Garry; also the reports of the engineers who have discovered routes for a railroad south of Lake Nipigon, east and west of Nipigon River, to the points in common with the proposed main line north of Lake Nipigon, before mentioned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 23, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

WRIT FOR SOUTH OXFORD

Mr. OLIVER moved that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant for a new writ for the election of a member for the South riding of the County of Oxford, in the room of E.V. Bodwell, who has been appointed to a place of emolument under the Crown.—Carried.

* * *

PETITIONS PRESENTED

A large number of petitions were presented praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. WILKES presented a petition from John Morrison and others, of Toronto, against a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. DOMVILLE presented a petition signed by 95 of the principal merchants of St. John, New Brunswick, praying that no import duty be placed upon sugar.

Mr. RYAN presented a petition of the Montreal Board of Trade praying the Government to consider the scheme of the Huron and Ottawa Railway Company before deciding upon the route of the Pacific Railway.

It was suggested that an enquiry and survey be made before the Government adopted any particular route.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE—To authorize the Incorporation of Boards of Trade in the Dominion.

Mr. OLIVER—To amend the General Railway Act.

Mr. BLAIN—To incorporate the Dominion Agricultural Insurance Company.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK—Respecting the Federal Bank of Canada.

Mr. BROOKS—To amend and assimilate the laws respecting libel, and the procedure for indictments for libel and other misdemeanours.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Mr. YOUNG moved that Mr. Cunningham (Marquette) be added to the Public Accounts Committee.

* * *

MANITOBA LANDS

Hon. Mr. LAIRD introduced a Bill respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion Lands in Manitoba. He said that ever since the present Government came into office, the settlement of a number of claims in that Province had engaged their attention. 1,400,000 acres of land had been appropriated for the settlement of the claims of children of half-breed heads of families, but no provision had been made to extinguish the Indian title in the heads of families themselves. It was deemed advisable that the half-breed heads of families, as well as the children, should receive grants of land, and that in them, also, the Indian title should be extinguished. It had been found, also, that while the settlers in the old settlement belt had free grants of land those in outlying parishes who had settled for as long a time as those in the settlement belt had no provision for free grants. They had only pre-emption rights. It was deemed advisable that they should have the same rights as those in the old settlement belt.

By the Act 36 Vic., 49,000 acres were appropriated for the Selkirk settlers, that is, those who came in under the auspices of Lord Selkirk. It was supposed then that there would be only about 250 claimants under that Act, but when the census was taken it was found that there were 530. The original intention was to give 140 acres to each person, but the quantity of land appropriated would give only 94 acres. It was deemed advisable that the original quantity should be secured to each of these settlers.

It was also ascertained that a number of settlers in Manitoba came in about the same time as the Selkirk settlers, though not under the auspices of Lord Selkirk. This Bill provided that these settlers should also have 140 acres each. Under this head the number of claimants would probably be 250.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD called the attention of the leader of the Government to the question whether this, being an appropriation of land, should not, like an appropriation of money, be commenced in Committee of the Whole.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not quite sure whether the right hon. gentleman was correct or not. He would look into the matter. He was not quite sure whether the original bill was so introduced or not.

The Bill was then read a first time.

SALARIES OF JUDGES

Hon. Mr. DORION moved that the House go into Committee tomorrow to consider the resolution on the subject of salaries of the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Judges of Prince Edward Island, and the Judges of New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario.

* * *

THE ELECTION LAW

On the orders of the day being called,

Mr. MILLS resumed the debate on the Election Bill. In opening he said he did not desire to detain the House with many remarks upon the principle of the Bill, but he thought it necessary to reply to some of the arguments of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper).

The objection taken by the hon. gentleman to allowing the Local Legislatures to fix the franchise he described as very absurd, and in all the experiences of a similar provision in the United States not a single instance of corrupt practices of the kind mentioned had occurred. He commented upon the hon. gentleman's want of consistency in insisting upon a uniform franchise for the whole Dominion, while he did so much to destroy the uniformity after Confederation by insisting on the enfranchisement of Government officials in the Province of Nova Scotia, when similar officials throughout the other Provinces had been deprived of that privilege.

He characterized as extraordinary the hypothesis that gentlemen elected to the House of Commons by constituencies having a different franchise should not be on an equal footing. The result of a system which recognized differences of franchise, as was the case in counties and boroughs in Great Britain, proved exactly the contrary, where all who were elected were upon just the footing which their intelligence and ability entitled them to. Fox, Burke, and Pitt each entered Parliament as the representative of rotten boroughs, and their position in the House of Commons was in no way influenced by the fact. The same was equally clear in the United States previous to the general adoption of universal suffrage, and the prominent men during that time came equally from States having a low franchise and those having a high one.

So far as the Government had it in their power, the principle of simultaneous polling was adhered to at the last general election. The hon. member for Cumberland complained that the Nova Scotia elections were left over till later than the others; but relatively they were earlier than in either 1867 or 1872. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) also complained that it was a violation of the principle of responsible government to appoint Returning officers by statute. In his (Mr. Mills) own election in 1872, a Returning officer was appointed who was a well known partisan of the then Government. That officer, in order to manipulate the election in favour of the Administration, brought every one of his deputies from outside the county, and over them under the writ he could have exercised no power had they chosen to violate the law.

The position of the hon. member for Cumberland reminded him very much of that of the Hebrew prophet who mourned because he alone was left; and he was not sure that the hon. member felt very secure even in his loneliness. (*Laughter.*) The hon. member complained that the election of this year was brought upon the people at an improper time, but for the sake of being consistent he should not have omitted to mention that he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had himself brought on the elections in 1867 when nearly all the fishermen were out at sea, and were therefore deprived of the opportunity of voting. Such, at least, was the charge which had been made, and the hon. gentleman had not as yet denied it.

Returning for a moment to the subject of the appointment of Returning officers, he said there were some powers of which it were better to divest any Government, and this was one of them. Where an election took place this year, an other might take place next year, and in the meantime issues might arise where important principles were at stake, and where a party, for other than personal considerations, might be desirous of success. The government would have great temptations in such a case to make such an appointment as would be most likely to forward their own interests. Therefore, when it was possible to make such appointments by Act of Parliament, it should be done.

With regard to simultaneous elections, the hon. member had stated that the principle had been adopted in his own Province, and was a borrowed one in the Dominion. However that might be, the hon. gentleman had not been an ardent admirer of it, for in 1871, when a resolution affirming it was laid before the House by the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young), the hon. member for Cumberland voted against it. Sir George-Étienne Cartier upon that occasion stated that the thing was impossible. He (Mr. Mills) then proposed that they should be simultaneous in each Province, but the hon. member for Cumberland voted against that too. (*Hear, hear.*)

The hon. gentleman told the House that the principle of vote by ballot was embodied in the Election Bill of the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald); but when Mr. Tremblay (Charlevoix) moved a resolution affirming the principle, last year, the hon. member for Cumberland and the right hon. member for Kingston both voted against it. (*Hear, hear.*) When the hon. member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake), some sessions ago, moved a resolution affirming the necessity and expediency of a judicial trial for controverted elections, the hon. member and his colleagues voted against that also; and, in fact, to each one of these great principles they were steadily opposed to up to the last moment that there was any possibility of opposing them with success. *(Hear, hear.)*

If the hon. gentleman had proposed to place the uniform franchise which he advocated upon a proper basis, he (Mr. Mills) would have been in favour of it; but while a property qualification continued to be exacted, uniformity was impossible. He (Mr. Mills) believed in a uniform franchise on the basis of manhood suffrage, accompanied, of course, by the principle of residence. Manhood suffrage, he contended, engendered a spirit of self-respect and self-reliance, and taught rich men to have great respect for their poorer brethren. He quoted the opinion of Lord Holland in proof of the assertion that nothing caused dissatisfaction among the poorer people sooner or more effectively than enfranchisement, which gave them a direct interest in anything which tended to the improvement of the condition of the country. In opposing manhood

suffrage, he contended, the hon. member for Cumberland was opposing the only system upon which a uniform franchise could be introduced.

There were fraudulent voters put upon the lists even now, but how much worse would the case be if the voters lists were in the hands of revising barristers appointed by the Government, as the hon. gentleman proposed. (*Hear, hear.*) Under such a system the Government, without being extremely unscrupulous, might manage affairs so as to ensure for themselves the gaining of many doubtful elections. Too many grades of qualification for the different elections in a constituency were not advisable, and tended to confuse the public mind. He commented upon the different classes of property which constituted a man's wealth in different portions of the Dominion, showing the difficulty and even impossibility of making the franchise uniform.

With regard to the ballot he said he had never been an ardent admirer of secret voting, and held that much might be said in favour of the open system. He repudiated the idea thrown out by the hon. member for Cumberland, however, that secret voting was cowardly or sneaking. If an elector had been influenced to make a promise to vote against his conscience, and had violated that promise under the cloak of the ballot, he considered that the least of two evils had been chosen. If it was cowardly to promise one way and vote another, it was still more cowardly to both promise and vote against conviction. If a man in voting must necessarily be false, it was better, at least, that he should not be false to himself. (*Hear, hear.*) The ballot did not compel a man to hide for whom he voted, but if a man did desire to give his vote secretly, he did not see that the law should be such as to compel him to make it known.

The franchise, notwithstanding arguments to the contrary, was a trust. It at least was not personal property, or else a man would have the right to sell it. If, then, it was not personal property, but was a trust, a man had a perfect right to exercise it in secret if he chose. He admitted it was a great public trust, but all the more reason why it should be exercised free from outside and undue influence and according to one's own judgment.

There were many reasons, in his opinion, for the retention of public nominations, and he contended that in Ontario, at least, they would practically be retained. He thought the Bill did not make sufficient provision against sham nominations, and in order to secure bona fide candidates, as far as possible, he declared himself in favour of Hon. Mr. Blake's suggestion that a deposit of money should be made. The hon. member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) objected to the reception of a vote which was claimed to have been recorded previously by personation on the ground that a bona fide voter might, in order to secure an additional vote for his own party, send someone to personate himself, and afterwards come up and record his own vote. In the majority of cases the elector who presented himself second would be the proper party, and in order to guard against the contingency suggested by the hon. member for Cardwell, it would be simply necessary to make him swear that he was a party to no such transaction. The difficulty was one which should be met and provided for.

He contended that the objection taken by the hon. member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) to the clause providing that bribery and corruption on the part of a candidate's friends, without his knowledge, should make his election void was not sustained by the letter of the Bill and he asserted that in such a case the candidate might offer himself for re-election. He thought it would be advisable to have some system of ballot by which a scrutiny would be made possible, and he was more in favour of the English plan than that proposed by the government. On the whole, however, he was well satisfied with the Bill, which was a vast improvement on the present state of things. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. PALMER said that while he could not agree with every proposition in the measure he was very much pleased with its general tendency, especially with the introduction of the ballot.

He was of opinion, with the hon. member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron), that as the Bill stood at present it was perfectly open, in point of the law, to elect anybody to this House—an alien, or even a lady, were it not for the 41st section of the British North America Act. He was opposed to the abolition of the property qualification, and thought that there were many reasons why nomination day should be retained. Both sides of a question were fairly discussed upon those occasions which was a very great public advantage. He did not see why, as each Province had the power to fix its own franchise, they should not make their own regulations as to property qualifications for members.

He was in favour of the enfranchisement of unmarried ladies possessed of the qualification which entitled a man to vote, but he did not see why married ladies should have the right of voting, as they were represented by their husbands. While he desired to see the franchise made uniform, he did not think it was possible. He entirely approved of the proposal to appoint the Returning officers by statute.

He thought the hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills) misconstrued the meaning of the Bill as to corrupt practices exercised by a candidate's friends, and contended that to be unseated upon that ground disqualified him from again being elected if he contested the seat. At any rate the clause should be made more clear upon this point. With these few exceptions, he thought the Bill in the main was in accordance with the views of the House and of the country.

Mr. LANGLOIS said he was in favour of the general principles of the Bill, but there were a few particulars to which he took exception. He pointed out that under the old law there was great inconvenience arising from sham nominations, and the crowds who attended, especially in cities, were generally made up of non-electors. The intention of the framers of the Bill was evidently to do away with that, but there was no power to preclude the public from congregating in the room where the nomination was made. The law should provide for that exclusion.

He also thought that the number of electors required to nominate a candidate should be limited to ten, and if that were not done, say, a hundred nominate the candidate, and let the nomination be receivable at the domicile of the Returning officer within a certain number of days. Either of these plans would prevent crowding at

the nominations, which not infrequently had an undue influence on the result. Some provisions should be made for the prevention of crowding at the polling booths, where he thought, it would be well that only one elector should be admitted at once. It was provided that a certain number should be present at the opening of the ballot boxes, but he saw nothing which prevented a crowd forcing themselves in and obstructing business, or perhaps destroying the ballot papers. This should be provided for.

He also thought the provisions regarding the detection and punishment of offenses under this law were a little defective. There was no possibility of convicting a man of a misdemeanour by a jury under the Corrupt Practices Act, and he thought the punishment should be less in order to make it punishable in some way. He would substitute a fine of say $100 or $200 for each offense, giving the fine to the prosecutor, which, he thought, would make justice much more speedy and much more certain. He would also give the prosecutor the power to hold the person charged to bail, so that there could be no possibility of evading the result by leaving the country, but he would allow the defendant to call upon the prosecutor to give security for costs in case of the charge being disproved.

He thought it would go a long way toward the prevention of ballot stuffing if the Returning officer initialled every paper before sending it to the Deputy Returning officers, as well as the envelopes in which they were enclosed, and requesting the return of all those not used or spoiled along with the envelopes, and the ballot papers deposited in the box. With these few exceptions, he entirely approved of the measure of the Government.

Mr. TREMBLAY (in French) spoke at length of the necessity of a new election law, on account of the outrages which might and had been perpetrated under the operation of the late Act, as was evidenced by the treatment which he had received after the Charlevoix election, as well as the unfair and corrupt manner in which voting had been carried on in the county of Chicoutimi.

Mr. CIMON rose to contradict Mr. Tremblay, but was called to order.

Mr. TREMBLAY continued to condemn public nominations, and the approval generally of the present measure. He suggested a number of amendments in the details, such as the preparation of the ballot papers so as to prevent fraud and to enable people to make use of them. He also sustained his Ballot Bill of last year, which he proposed to present again—not in opposition to Hon. Mr. Dorion's measure, but in order that any good which it might contain, might be incorporated in this bill. He explained the points in his own bill, which were the printing of the respective colour for each candidate on the ballot paper, by which, even if the voter could not read, he would be able to detect any fraud in the filling up which might be committed by the returning officer. He also showed up the abuses of the present system of preparing voters lists, in which he suggested a number of amendments.

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MANITOBA LANDS

The SPEAKER said he was informed that Hon. Mr. Laird wished to withdraw the Bill in reference to Manitoba Lands.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that though we had no such rule as prevailed in England, still he thought this measure came within the spirit of our practice.

The Bill was accordingly withdrawn.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

The debate on the Election Bill was resumed.

Mr. CIMON contradicted some statements of the member for Charlevoix (Mr. Tremblay).

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said it was very satisfactory that the Hon. Minister of Justice, in presenting a bill of this comprehensive character, said he would be glad to receive suggestions in regard to it. There were some four or five elements in this bill the proper dealing with which only would ensure its success. He was in favour of the ballot, and had witnessed the advantages which were to be derived from this system of voting. The principle of simultaneous polling which had been in use for some years in Nova Scotia, he also approved of. He also entirely approved of the clauses relating to bribery and corruption; but, when the bill was in Committee, he would make some suggestions for their slight amendment. In reference to the clauses relating to the franchise he begged to call the attention of the Ministry to the fact that it would be exceedingly unwise for the superior Parliament of Canada to delegate to the minor powers the right of from time to time regulating the franchise, which was to settle the right for them to take their positions in the House.

When the bill was in committee he would move an amendment to the effect that the Local legislatures should not control the seats of gentlemen who might be candidates for seats in the Parliament.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK thought the matter should receive the greatest attention at the hands of the House. He was of opinion that on the whole the proposal of the Minister of Justice with regard to the franchise was the best that could be adopted. He thought, if minors and felons were allowed to vote, that women should not be prohibited from voting; therefore he considered the 40th clause of the bill should be struck out. The clause with regard to the abolition of property qualification met with his approbation. He was favourable to the abolition of the nomination day, but he considered that a clause might be inserted to provide against sham nominations. He suggest that, in order to prevent sham nominations, the candidate should be required to pay a portion of the expenses of the election.

He also was of opinion that the cumulative system of voting might be adopted with advantage, and he supported the ballot, believing it would do away with many evils attendant on elections. He could not believe that the ballot was either a sneaking or an un-British mode of voting. On the whole he would give the bill his

hearty approval and support. He would, however, make some suggestions with reference to the wording of some clauses when in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) congratulated the Minister of Justice on the extraordinary success this measure had met with. It had been generally approved of, though some of the details might require amendment. He was entirely opposed to the abolition of the property qualification. By this Bill a candidate might be in a worse position than the elector, and to be logical the Bill should provide for manhood suffrage. He was in favour of retaining public nominations, where people could hear both sides. He supported the proposal to adopt the voters lists in the several Provinces, but hoped the oaths used in connection with the lists would also be adopted. He criticised some minor details of the measure, and stated he was not greatly enamoured of the ballot, but if it prevented intimidation he should be satisfied. He expressed regret at the absence of any provision for scrutinizing, and wished that a clause should be introduced to compel men to vote.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said public nominations did not prevent sham nominations, and therefore he could not see how the Bill could be objected to on that ground. The people were able to hear public affairs discussed on occasions other than those of nominations. He did not see how personation could be entirely prevented if voting was perfectly secret. The clause, however, limiting the number of voters at each polling place to three hundred would obviate the difficulty to a great extent. On the subject of cumulative voting, it was simply a theory which he thought it undesirable to introduce into the politics of Canada. The only way in which it could possibly succeed would be to group several counties together.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD differed in regard to doing away with public nominations. It was said by the hon. gentleman that public nominations did not dispense with sham nominations, but many of the most eminent men in England had commenced with only a few voices. If they had no public nominations he feared in future there would be no returns without contents. Few men were willing to come forward on the hustings unless they were sincerely and really anxious to be returned. Should, however, there be no nomination in public, there would be no difficulty in getting men for the sake of the prestige of being brought out having the requisite number of names attached to papers in their favour. A man proposed by ten of his neighbours attaching their names to a paper would say in case of failure that the act was none of his, but if perchance he succeeded, he took his seat as a representative.

He denied that as a general rule nominations in public were attended by violence. In this country, especially in the rural parts, there were present more electors than non-electors at nominations. In England the loss of a day was a matter of consequence to the people, but here people were not as much pressed, and if they had more holidays than they have, it would be better for them. In England the cost of the contest was a burden which fell, not on the country, but on the candidates; but in the general law of Canada this was impossible. There were various interests which desired a contest, particularly the inn keeping and cab driving, and all the clauses of the Bill designed to prevent the operation of those interests at elections would not secure the desired effect.

He held to the same opinion he had always held, that there should be a uniform franchise throughout the Dominion—not universal in the sense of a cast iron rule, but so as to bring in all of a similar class. Some hon. gentlemen were in favour of manhood suffrage, but he believed in a property qualification for a vote; he did not believe in giving people who had no property the right to tax others who had property. He believed in the widest extension of the franchise consistent with the principle that no one should have a voice in the government of the country except those who were interested in the good government of the country.

The difference between Canada and the United States was that here, instead of a union of sovereign States, each reserving its own rights, we were one body politic, each Province only a municipality having large municipal rights; but Congress had always asserted its right to define the franchise when the State Legislatures failed to do so. The three kingdoms forming the United Kingdom had been separate States, and the right of each had to a certain extent to be retained. There, however, legislation was constantly tending to assimilate the laws of the three countries. He pointed out the long intervals of time that elapsed in England between great constitutional changes, and urged that the result of this measure would be that constant agitation and change would take place.

It was highly important the Local legislatures, in arranging the mode of representation, should have a single eye to their own affairs. This Bill would force them to attend to representation in this House, and this Parliament would abnegate its functions in this respect. If, however, they were giving this matter to the Local Legislature they ought to adopt the local franchise of a certain date, and prevent the constant change which would otherwise result. He believed the franchise proposed in the last bill which he had brought down had been quite liberal enough to include all those classes which were really entitled to vote. He felt last year that when the ballot was adopted in England it was a foregone conclusion that it would be adopted here also; and he thus accounted for his having incorporated the principle in his own election Bill.

He was in favour, however, of such a system as would afford the opportunity of a scrutiny, and he hoped the Minister of Justice would so alter this portion of the bill in order to secure this advantage. He gave the Minister of Justice great credit for the care he had bestowed upon the Bill, but he assured him he would receive far more if he were willing to accept such amendments in detail as would suggest themselves to him as proper, come the suggestion from what source it might.

He would only most unwillingly change the property qualification. He believed that the vast majority of the members of this House had a property qualification, and if there were one or two who had not that qualification, it was confined to those few; but this trifling exception, if it existed, could not be used as an argument against property qualification. In England, where the property qualification had been abolished, it was different. There they were in the habit of electing men possessed of property, and

again they did not pay their members, and therefore it was necessary in a majority of cases that they should possess money.

He contended that the law relating to corrupt practices was quite strict enough, but the provisions in the proposed Bill were so severe as to be incompatible with our system of representation, and were sufficient to unseat almost every member in the House if carried out to the letter. In conclusion he expressed his approval of the principles of the Bill, and offered his humble services to perfect the measure in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said he quite approved of the abolition of nomination day, a measure to the same effect having worked very well in the Province of Nova Scotia. He also supported strongly the proposal of the Government to leave to each Province the fixing of its own franchises, but could not see that it was practicable to restrict the number of electors voting at one polling place to 300, assuring the Minister of Justice that it would be a very serious obstacle in places like Halifax.

With regard to the ballot, he feared that under the principle proposed there was not sufficient assurance of secrecy to the voter. He thought this would especially be the case where the voter had to ask the assistance of a friend or the returning officer in marking his voting paper, more particularly in rural constituencies; and he also feared that the deputy returning officer might mark each voter's ballot paper so that he would know exactly for whom he voted. He suggested that the ballots should be made official documents, that they should be sent to the candidates and their friends in official envelopes, and that the voter should have his paper marked before going to the polling place, when they could be dropped into the box.

Mr. TROW thought that three hundred voting at one place was too many, instead of too few as was the opinion of the hon. member for Halifax. He congratulated the Hon. Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) upon the favourable reception given to the Bill, the only objection of vital importance being, in his opinion, the abolition of nomination day. He was himself in favour of its retention, upon considering that it gave considerable *vim* to an election, and that it created a strong and healthy interest in the result of the contest. He hoped the Minister of Justice would consent to that portion of the bill being dropped.

He considered it somewhat anomalous that an elector should be required to have a property qualification while members of Parliament did not. It was quite true that it had been abolished in England, but the circumstances there were very different, and the change had been made chiefly to allow bankers and Jews, who did not own real property, to become members. In this country real property was easily acquired, and it could not fail to be a recommendation to a man who he went to seek election that he had been able by industry to possess a portion of the land for which he was to assist in framing laws.

He was opposed to the opening of the ballot boxes by Deputy Returning officers, which he thought would open the way in many cases to stuffing them. He thought the box should be of such a kind that when once the ballot paper was deposited in it there should be no possibility of taking it out until it came into the hands of the Returning officer. He thought the number of electors required to nominate a candidate should be larger, and if increased from twenty-five to thirty, he would be more willing to give up the nomination day. He highly approved of the ballot, which, although it would not and could not prevent bribery and corruption, would at least prevent intimidation and coercion. Bribery to induce a voter to stay at home could not be prevented at all, he was afraid, unless by compulsory voting, which was a principle he greatly favoured. He was much pleased with the Bill as a whole, and congratulated the Government upon their success in dealing with a subject so difficult.

Mr. GOUDGE also complimented the Government upon their measure, but thought amendments might be made. He was opposed to the abolition of the nomination day, which he thought served many good purposes, and which would, to all intents and purposes, be retained, notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill. He objected to the disfranchisement of Dominion officials, not because he had ever received any benefit from their being allowed to vote, for on different occasions they had voted against him. He thought the system of registration of voters which was in force in Nova Scotia was a very good one.

With reference to the nominations he said that he did not believe they could prevent large crowds assembling on the day on which they were made, nor the speaking which had hitherto been customary. He approved of open nominations. In Nova Scotia the person making a nomination was obliged to deposit $75 at the time as a forfeit in case the candidate did not run, and that sum was found to be sufficient to pay the expenses.

Adverting to the question of the ballot box, he said that in Nova Scotia they had not perfect secrecy, but he believed that under the provision of the Bill of the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion), it would be almost impossible to learn how any man had voted. He said that he would himself prefer open voting to the ballot, and so he believed would nineteen twentieths of the people of Hants. He did not think that the ballot was a preventive against bribery. He believed that one man would accept a bribe and another give one just as quickly under the ballot system as under the system of open voting. He thought the ballot rather tended to encourage deceit.

He was of opinion that if the determination of the franchise was left to the Local Legislature, the arranging of the polling sub-divisions should be left to them also. With reference to the qualification, he said he thought that a candidate would have at least as much property as the elector who voted for him.

Mr. DAVIES said that he was not a lover of the ballot. He approved of open nominations, but he thought property qualifications for candidates should be done away with. He thought the country was prepared for universal suffrage, and that this franchise would work well.

Mr. FLESHER said that upon first reading the Bill he thought it entirely precluded the possibility of a person bribing an elector or knowing whether the person whom he has bribed had voted as he wished or not, but on a mere careful examination of it he thought it quite possible to show by a pre-concerted arrangement between the briber and the elector whom he had bribed how the latter had voted. For instance, this might be done by making the mark on the paper

of some determinate shape or size, or the lines might be crossed at some particular angle previously agreed upon. He suggested as a means of obviating such a corrupt arrangement between the voter and anyone else that the ballot might be punctured in such a manner that the elector should remove a piece of paper from it opposite the name of the person he voted for.

Mr. McDONNELL contended that universal suffrage should precede the ballot. (*Hear, hear.*) He thought the great majority was entitled to the franchise, which would enable a man to think and act as a man. This country was different from England, inasmuch as it had not tenantry. He held that if property was made the basis of the franchise they must respect property according to its amount; and if they gave a man one vote because he had property to the amount of $200, they should give a man who had more property than that a greater number of votes.

He expressed himself in favour of an extended franchise, and said that he found in his constituency that men assembled in as large crowds on nomination days since the present system was established as before it, because they expected to hear the candidates speak. He thought the assembling of a crowd on nomination days could only be prevented by prohibiting the candidates from speaking on those days. As to the qualification of candidates he went entirely with the bill.

Mr. CARON (in French) agreed with the Minister of Justice, who had expounded his views with such clearness. The bill involved questions of the greatest moment to the future of the people of this Dominion. The ballot had been adopted by the most civilized nations and the farthest advanced in political science, and had been found to work well. As to the franchise, he was in favour of the system they had enjoyed hitherto. He did not approve of abolishing the nomination day. He thought it enabled the people to discuss the political questions of the day with advantage to themselves. (*Applause.*)

Mr. SCHULTZ held that before another general election was held, communication with Manitoba would be so easy that there was no reason for making it an exception to the simultaneous polling, which was an advantage to Manitoba, if anywhere. It sent so few representatives that the result of elections elsewhere had a great influence there. He approved of compulsory voting, and if a measure embodying that principle were brought in it would receive his most hearty support.

The second reading of the bill was then carried. The bill will be considered in Committee of the Whole tomorrow.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD inquired if the bill was to be proceeded with in preference to other bills tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Either this or the estimates.

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SUPPLEMENTARY RETURN

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down a supplementary return of the papers on the Northwest troubles, a letter from Sir Clinton Murdock.

The House adjourned at midnight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, April 24, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

DEFECTIVE VENTILATION

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON called attention to the bad ventilation of the House, which was positively killing. He said that last year a committee had been appointed to consider this matter and that the ventilation was now worse than before. Indeed a number of members were now sick, and believed the defective ventilation had much to do with it.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE said a committee had last year been appointed to consider this matter, but the ventilation was no better, because it was said that the bad atmosphere was not on account of the impure air being brought here into the House but because of the manner in which the air was brought here and distributed.

Mr. PLUMB said he had never before seen a room ventilated as this was and believed that its condition was fraught with much danger to the lives of the members. He alluded to the oppressiveness of the atmosphere on the night of the ball, which was, he heard, caused by the bad gas, but when fresh air was brought to drive it away, the atmosphere became still more impure than before. He trusted that some mode would be devised to give better ventilation, more equable heat and purer air.

Mr. BROUSE said the foul smell on the night of the ball was attributed to the foul air which had been introduced, but such was not the case. It was partly to be attributed to the improper method of ventilation, as well as to the gas, which was not properly filtered and came in its impure state. He said the Committee of last session had made a number of suggestions which had not been properly carried out; otherwise there would have been a change, and the atmosphere would not be so unsupportable.

Mr. LANDERKIN said that as one of the members who acted on the Sanitary Committee last session, he thought he might be permitted to state that the improved ventilation required by this House was not likely to be secured by appointing another Committee. The late Committee called the attention of the Board of Works to several causes that produced impure atmosphere in the chamber, and also suggested a remedy for these evils. Some attention to the air ducts at that time was highly necessary, as some stagnant water was found in them. That he believed has been removed, and now the air came in pure through those sources.

The situation of the chamber rendered ventilation more than ordinarily difficult. To such an extent were the members of the Committee impressed with that fact, that a general feeling prevailed that the new library should be chosen for the legislative chamber. That, however, did not, from some cause or other, find its way into the report. The suggestion of the Committee that the chamber should be ventilated with warm air was, no doubt, a very useful one, but it required some time to arrange the apparatus to carry it into effect. He did not think it would be wise to interfere with the present system until it was thoroughly tested, and the defects pointed out and removed. It was impossible to carry out every suggestion made relative to the matter. He believed those having the management of the matter were endeavouring to carry out the wishes of the Committee, but it required some time, and the appointing of another Committee was at present unnecessary.

Mr. CURRIER denied that the gas was impure, and said that the bad odours were attributable to other causes.

The matter was then dropped.

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STANDING ORDERS REPORT

Mr. RYMAL brought up the fifth report of the Committee on Standing Orders, respecting certain petitions for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

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PETITIONS PRESENTED

Mr. WILKES presented a petition from the Northern Extension Railway Company, asking for an Act of Amalgamation with the Northern Railway Company of Canada.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON presented petitions from the Harbour Commission and leading merchants and shipping owners of Quebec, praying for a grant in favour of the graving dock.

Mr. O'DONOHOE presented the petition of H.M. Clarke and others of the city of Toronto, against the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

A number of petitions in favour of the passage of the same law were presented.

A number of petitions were also presented asking for Acts of Incorporation.

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MERCANTILE AGENCIES

Mr. DOMVILLE presented the first report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the Mercantile Agencies system.

CONTROVERTED ELECTION COURTS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table correspondence respecting the establishment of Election Courts in the Province of Nova Scotia.

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OCEAN MAIL CONTRACTS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table the memorial of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce respecting the ocean mail contracts.

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ALBION MINES SAVING BANK

Mr. CARMICHAEL introduced a bill to incorporate the Albion Mines Saving Bank.

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COMMITTEE ON MERCANTILE AGENCIES

Mr. DOMVILLE moved that the quorum of the Mercantile Agencies Committee be reduced to five.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this Committee was investigating one of the most important matters concerning the commerce of the country, and he did not think the quorum of this Committee should be reduced to so small a number as five.

Mr. DOMVILLE explained that there was considerable difficulty in getting a quorum at present. If the Premier, however, was desirous that the reduction should not be made he would withdraw his motion. The motion was then withdrawn.

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SILVER MINING COMPANY

Mr. SCATCHERD introduced a bill to incorporate the Columbus and Oregon Consolidated Silver Mining Company.

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BILLS OF EXCHANGE

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) introduced a bill relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes. He stated that he introduced the same measure last year, but unfortunately it was lost in the Upper House.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ELECTION

Mr. SCATCHERD introduced a bill to indemnify Mr. Stanislaus F. Perry for having sat and voted as a member of the House of Commons under the circumstances therein mentioned.

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RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON introduced a bill to amend the Railway Act of 1868. The object of the bill was to permit railway companies to pass over the bridges and rails of other companies on the payment of a certain indemnity by agreement. The bill provides that in cases in which no agreement had been arrived at the toll should be settled by arbitration.

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PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved that notice should be sent to the Senate that the House agreed to the formation of a Joint Committee to act with the Committee appointed by them on the subject of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Hon. CAMERON (Cardwell) pointed out that such a Committee would not be able to suggest a measure affecting the revenue.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said such was his own opinion at first, but he thought the matter did not necessarily affect the revenue. Upon that understanding he had consented to agree to the motion of his hon. friend.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that as this Committee would be charged with the consideration of the petition for a prohibitory liquor law, their action struck at the revenue, and though he did not attach much importance to the matter, it was setting a dangerous precedent. He could easily understand why the Leader of the Government should be willing to agree to the motion of the hon. member for Middlesex West, but the practice would be unsound. He (Hon. M. Holton) thought it was more a question of order than a question of policy, and he requested Mr. Speaker, if he did not care to give his decision now, to reserve the disposal of the motion till Monday.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE suggested that the Committee of both Houses should meet by private arrangement and hold joint consultations as they had done in a case arising in 1868.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: If this were suggested to the Committee, it would be suggesting that they should not perform a duty they were specially charged to perform, which was to consider the expediency of prohibiting the sale of liquor. They might, however, meet and act separately.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) said the object of his motion was to enable the Committee to examine witnesses together, and save the expense of perhaps summoning the same persons twice. Since, however, it was objectionable from a constitutional point of view, he would be willing to withdraw it.

After some further discussion the motion was withdrawn.

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PILOTAGE AND WRECKS

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House go into Committee to consider these resolutions:

1. That it is expedient to amend the Pilotage Act, 1873.

2. That it is expedient to exempt transports employed exclusively in carrying troops from port and harbour dues.

3. That it is expedient to amend the law respecting carriers by water, by better defining their liabilities.

4. That it is expedient to provide for the removal of obstructions by wrecks and like causes in the navigable waters of Canada, and for other purposes respecting wrecks.

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GRANTS TO MANITOBA SETTLERS

Hon. Mr. LAIRD moved that the House go into Committee on Tuesday to consider the following resolutions respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion lands in Manitoba:

1. That inasmuch by the Act 33 Vic., Cap. 3, 1,400,000 acres of land were appropriated for the children of half-breed heads of families residing in the Province of Manitoba at the time of its transfer to Canada towards the extinguishment of the Indian title, but no provision was made for like purposes as respects the half-breed heads of families themselves, it is therefore expedient to make such provision by authorizing the Governor in Council in his discretion, and under regulations to be made in that behalf, to grant to each half-breed head of a family resident in the Province of Manitoba on the 15th July, 1870, 160 acres of land or scrip for $160, receivable in payment for Dominion lands.

2. That it is expedient to provide that for the purposes aforesaid, the terms, "Half-breed heads of families" shall be held to include half-breed mothers as well as half-breed fathers, or both, as the case may be; but the land or scrip to which any half-breed mother is entitled shall be granted or allotted and given to such half-breed mother on such conditions as the Governor in Council may from time to time determine, and that in the event of the death of a half-breed father or half-breed mother, or both, between the 15th day of July, 1870, and the granting of the land or the issuing of the scrip, the land or scrip to which such half-breed or head of family is entitled shall be granted or distributed to such members of the family on such conditions as the Governor in Council may determine.

3. That it is expedient to repeal subsection 4 of section 32 of the said Act 33 Vic., Cap. 3, which provides that all persons in peaceable possession of tracts of land at the time of the transfer to Canada, in those parts of said Province in which the Indian title has not been extinguished, shall have the right of pre-emption of the same on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Governor in Council, and to provide that all titles by peaceable possession of tracts of land at the time of the transfer of Canada in those parts of the said Province in which the Indian title had not at the said time been extinguished shall, if required by the owner, be converted into an estate in fee simple by a grant from the Crown.

4. That, whereas, by the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 37, it was provided that 49,000 acres should be set apart from the ungranted lands of the Crown in Manitoba, to be divided as free grants to persons resident in the Province, being original white settlers who came to the country under the auspices of Lord Selkirk between the years 1813 and 1835, both inclusive, or the children, not being half-breeds, of such original settlers, of whom by an inexact census the number of claimants was assumed not to exceed 350, and the grant of land, 49,000 acres, was estimated accordingly; whereas an accurate census of such persons and their children show they number 530 or thereabouts, and an equal division of the land so set apart as above would only give to each claimant 92 acres, 4 roads, and 10 perches, and it is expedient to recognize the right of each of such claimants to a grant of 140 acres, and whereas the said persons and children have requested that such grant may be by an issue of scrip, it is therefore expedient to provide that each and every person resident of the said Province, being original white settlers who came into the Red River country, whether under the auspices of Lord Selkirk or otherwise, between the years 1813 and 1835, both inclusive, or the children, not being half-breeds, of such original settlers shall be entitled under regulation to be made by the Governor in Council, to receive scrip for $140, the same to be receivable in payment for the purchase of Dominion lands, and to repeal the said Act 36 Vic., Cap. 31.

The resolutions were carried.

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THE ELECTION BILL

Hon. Mr. DORION, in moving that the Speaker do now leave the chair, said that about the only previous objections made to this Bill was in regard to the proposal to abolish public nominations. He had come to the conclusion that it was desirable to abolish public nominations, not only because they now existed nowhere except in Canada—that they had been abolished in England, France, Belgium, the United States and Australia which in itself was a grave presumption in favour of the view that public nominations were not absolutely necessary—but also because the experience of other countries had shown that they were likely to lead to great excitement and to prevent that calm and just appreciation of the circumstances which ought to lead the electors in the selection of the candidates.

And in Canada itself several such incidents had occurred, notably those at Kamouraska in 1867, when the poll booth was torn down and several were injured; in the affray in Quebec East in 1873 and in 1874 and in Quebec Centre in 1872; in the local election for that division in 1871, when Mr. Langevin was elected by acclamation because the nominator of the other candidate was prevented from reaching the hustings; in Charlevoix in 1872 and 1874; in Montreal East in 1867 and in 1872; in the election for the Legislative Council for the Alma division in 1856; in Chicoutimi in 1874; in Montmagny in 1867; in L'Islet, where no nomination had been possible from 1857 to 1872; and in other cases. These were, he thought, sufficient reasons for the abolition of a public nomination. The experience in other countries and in municipal elections in Lower Canada showed that without public nominations elections took place by acclamation.

With regard to the franchise, he could see no reason for the absolute uniformity, which seemed to be what some gentlemen desired. There was now a different franchise in cities from that in counties; and in England there were several different franchises. He would introduce several amendments in Committee.

The House then went into Committee on the bill, **Mr. MILLS** in the chair.

Mr. BOWELL suggested that for the third returning officer in counties, where there were three ridings, the Warden of the County should be appointed, or that the matter should be left with the government of the day.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that the opinions of the hon. member for Hastings North evidently differed from the opinions expressed by the hon. member for Cumberland on this subject. With regard to the suggestion that the Warden should be the returning officer, he was, as a general thing, one of the most likely men in the county to be a candidate.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD suggested the appointment of some respectable person as returning officer who should act in that capacity during good behaviour.

After some discussion the first clause passed,

Hon. Mr. DORION promising to take into consideration Hon. Mr. Mitchell's suggestion to add to the parties eligible to be returning officers the name of the Clerks of the Peace in New Brunswick.

Clause 2, as to the day of nomination, passed,

Hon. Mr. DORION amending it, at the suggestion of Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, so as to provide that all nominations in Manitoba should take place on one and the same day, not necessarily that upon which the nominations in other Provinces take place.

Clauses 3 and 4, as to the contents and forms of the writs, were passed without amendment.

To clause 5, defining who were ineligible as election officers,

Hon. Mr. DORION made an addition to provide that any persons, otherwise qualified to act but having been found guilty of any offense or dereliction of duty under this act by any competent tribunal, should forever be disqualified from acting in such capacity.

Clauses 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, compelling certain parties to act as returning officers or clerks, and relating to the endorsation of returning officers' appointments of election clerks, duties of election clerks, and their oaths of office, were passed without amendment.

On clause 11, relating to the qualification of voters and polling days,

Mr. BOWELL stated it was impossible to poll three hundred votes at one polling station within election hours.

A long discussion followed as to this, and at 6 o'clock, when the House rose, the clause was not carried.

AFTER RECESS

SECOND READING OF PRIVATE BILLS

The following bills were read a second time:

To incorporate Lamb's Water-Proof Gum Manufacturing Company. —**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

To amend an Act to incorporate the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company. —**Mr. DOMVILLE**.

To amend an Act to incorporate the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company. —**Mr. DOMVILLE**.

* * *

THE ELECTION BILL

The House went into Committee on **Hon. Mr. DORION'S** Election Bill.

The 11th clause having been passed, with some trifling amendments, the 12th clause was amended by striking the County of Bonaventure from the constituencies in Ontario and Quebec excepted from the rule of simultaneous nominations. The clause then passed.

The 13th, 14th and 15th clauses, relating respectively to provisions for unforeseen delays, proclamations by the returning officer, the publication of the proclamations and the places of nomination, were passed without amendment.

On the seventeenth clause, which fixes the time of nominations between 12 and 2 o'clock,

Mr. KIRKPATRICK asked the Minister of Justice to consent to extend the time from two hours to two days. To prevent sham nominations, he proposed that candidates should make deposits.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL moved to add to the clause, "during which the Returning officer shall hold an open Court for that purpose". He said he desired to raise the whole question of public nominations on this clause. He was in favour of public nominations.

Mr. WILKES thought that in the abolition of nomination day they would lose an opportunity of letting the people hear both sides.

Mr. YOUNG contended that if the public nominations were abolished, the time for receiving nominations should be extended.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Montreal West) was in favour of private nominations.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) moved to amend the clause by adding the words, "which said nomination shall be an open and public nomination".

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he would accept the amendment in lieu of his.

Mr. COLBY thought it would be a great disappointment to a large majority of the people of that part of the Province of Quebec from which he came to lose the public nominations. Frequently a non-resident candidate would not be known to many of the voters in his constituency if the latter did not have an opportunity of seeing him on nomination day.

Mr. PATERSON was in favour of public nominations.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON supported the original clause of the Bill. He cited the case of England and held that private nominations were all that were required.

Mr. RYAN expressed himself favourable to the continuance of public nominations.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE admitted that it was their duty to provoke discussion, but held that it was not necessary to have public nominations in order to do this. He reminded them that in old times, when electors had to go into the county towns to record their votes, there was often a great deal of rioting among the crowds that then assembled, and that since polling places had increased in number the disorder had decreased. He contended that it was absurd to suppose that as thorough a discussion of public questions could be obtained at public nominations as at meetings specially called for the purpose and pointed out that public nominations had been abolished in England, France, Belgium and the United States.

He said while the Government were willing to accept suggestions with reference to the details of the Bill, they took their stand on its leading principles—the Provincial franchise, the ballot, the one day of polling, and the abolition of the property qualification; and he hoped the House would not offer any more opposition to these. He also expressed himself strongly in favour of the abolition of public nominations.

Mr. GORDON spoke strongly in favour of nominations, which he thought were a great means of educating the public mind. He did not think a case had been made out in favour of the abolition of this useful and time-honoured institution.

He believed a case had not been made out against public nominations, at which and not until which many people made up their minds how to vote. He denied that disturbances had been the rule, and should vote for Mr. Cameron's amendment.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE contended that the arguments showed that while our nominations had generally been more peaceful and quiet than those in England, yet they had not been free from disturbance, sometimes resulting in violence and death. He did not think nomination speeches were greatly calculated to enlighten the public mind and he especially objected to them, because perforce they were conducted in the open air, where the capacity of several riotous individuals to create a noise was generally sufficient to drown a speaker's voice.

The only ground upon which he could look with any amount of disfavour upon the abolition of nominations was the way they opened up to sham nominations; but he ventured to suggest that the remedy he had already proposed—that is, the deposit of a small sum of money—would be sufficient to meet this difficulty. If nominations were productive of so much good as some hon. gentlemen asserted, there was no reason that meetings by which candidates could address the electors should not be organized for that purpose. He was glad that in this country the powers and liberty of organizing public meetings without the presence of an officer of the law to conduct them was enjoyed to such a large extent, and at those meetings there was a far better opportunity of discussing great public questions than was usually to be got at nominations. Upon these grounds he was prepared to vote against the amendment of the hon. member for Huron South (Mr. Cameron).

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) was opposed both to the ballot and to the abolition of public nominations. He contended that rioting generally occurred on election and not on nomination day.

Mr. CHISHOLM was strongly in favour of the abolition of nominations; insofar as the city of Hamilton was concerned, they were a perfect sham. He was of opinion that nothing but evil results from a nomination day, which was no place for speechifying, but merely for letting the people know who the candidates were.

Mr. FORBES followed in the same strain, showing the good results so far as Nova Scotia was concerned and urging strongly the propriety of following English precedent in this respect. He approved of a deposit in order to prevent sham nominations.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL expressed some surprise and great gratification at the apparent feeling of the House in favour of public nominations, especially among the supporters of the Government, and renewed the arguments in favour of the retention of the time-honoured system, as he termed it.

The more he heard this discussion the more he felt that the amendment should be accepted by the Ministry. It was not necessary in this case, as some members contended, that they should follow the English precedent and English practice on every occasion, for it was not always suited to the requirements of the country.

Mr. TROW advocated the increase of the number of electors required to make a nomination, which he thought, would make sufficient compensation for the abolition of the nomination day. Upon that ground he would vote against the amendment.

The Committee then divided, when the amendment was lost by 42 to 98 nays.

Hon. Mr. DORION then said he would be prepared to make an amendment increasing the number of electors required to sign the nomination, and would bring it in at the next sitting of the Committee.

The Committee rose, reported progress and asked for leave to sit again.

* * *

SUPPLY

The House then went into Committee of Supply and passed the following items:

RAILWAYS—Intercolonial Railway, $2,570,000; Intercolonial Railway construction, snow sheds, rolling stock, offices, et cetera, $230,000; to branch line at Father Point, $250,000; Intercolonial Railway, extension into Halifax, $280,000; Intercolonial Railway, increased accommodation at St. John, $20,000; Prince Edward Island Railway, $33,000.

CANALS—Lachine canal, $1,500,000; St. Lawrence canals, $1,000,000; Welland canals, $2,000,000; St. Anne's lock, $200,000; Carillon and Chute-à-Blondeau, $484,000; Grenville canal, $454,000; Rideau canal, $18,000; Lock at Culbute Rapids, $140,000; Chambly canals, $22,000; St. Peter's canal, $75,000; miscellaneous works on canals, $100,000.

The Committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again on Tuesday.

The House adjourned at 1 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 27, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

The SPEAKER laid on the table a list of stockholders in certain banks, and the petitions of certain firms, praying that the use of seines be abolished in the catching of codfish.

A large number of petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law, including several by **Mr. YEO** from Prince Edward Island, signed by over 4,000 persons.

Several petitions were also presented in favour of protection to manufacturers, including one signed by 1,232 inhabitants of the city of Hamilton, presented by **Mr. IRVING**.

Mr. WILKES presented the petition of the Northern Railway Co. praying for an Act to enable them to change their gauge and for other purposes.

Mr. POZER introduced a Bill to amend the Act 29 Vic., Cap. 17, of the late Province of Canada. The Bill was read a first time.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

The following private Bills were read a second time:—

Bill to amalgamate the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Co. (Limited) with the Toronto Manufacturing Co. (Limited), under the name of the Electric and Hardware Manufacturing Company (Limited).

Bill to incorporate the Bank of Ottawa—**Mr. BLACKBURN**.

Bill to incorporate the Calais and St. Stephen Railway Bridge Co.—**Mr. APPLEBY**.

An Act for granting certain powers to the Richelieu River Hydraulic and Manufacturing Co.—**Mr. JODOIN**.

* * *

THE UPPER SAINT JOHN

Mr. COSTIGAN asked if the Government intended continuing the improvements on the Upper Saint John by repairing the towpaths, removing obstructions, and completing the channel through the Little Falls, so called, by building a pier at that point, out of the amount placed in the estimates for the improvement of navigable rivers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government do not intend to make any improvements above the point where the river is navigable.

* * *

MAILS TO THE WEST INDIES

Mr. FORBES asked whether any steps had been taken during the last year by the Government to establish a semi-monthly steam mail service between the British and Foreign West Indies and the Dominion of Canada.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said it was not the intention of the Government to take the matter up this year. It had, however, engaged their attention and would be considered between this and the next session of Parliament.

* * *

RECIPROCITY

Mr. PALMER enquired whether the Government had taken any, and what, steps to negotiate a reciprocity treaty between the United States of America and Canada; and if so, what progress had been made thereafter and whether or not the same is likely to succeed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government have some negotiations in progress and when they are complete they will be happy to inform the hon. gentleman.

* * *

THE FISHERIES QUESTION

Mr. PALMER enquired whether any, and what. steps had been taken by the Imperial Government for the appointment of a Commissioner to act with the Commissioner appointed by the United States of America to settle the amount of compensation, if any, which should be paid by the latter for the fishery privileges conceded by the Washington Treaty, as provided in sections 22, 23, 24 and 25 of the said Treaty; also whether any, and what, steps have been taken by the United States Government in relation to the said matter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Neither the Imperial Government nor the United States Government have informed us what they have done in the matter.

* * *

EARLY MEETING OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. FARROW enquired whether it was the intention of Government in future to convene Parliament not later than the first of February, according to the promise given by the late government at the urgent request of the present.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The present Government never asked the late Government to do anything, but it is their intention to have Parliament convoked at an earlier period than of late, and if possible not later than the lst February.

* * *

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE POSTPONED

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated that it was not the intention of the Government to get a vote this session for the improvement of one or more of the outlets of the Chevanel and Lecarte, or otherwise improve the navigation between Lake St. Clair and the mouth of the River Sydenham, but before next session the matter would be considered by the Government.

* * *

INSOLVENT COMPANIES

Mr. KIRKPATRICK asked whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce this session any measure to provide for the winding up of Insolvent Incorporated Companies.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that the measure which the Government would bring in would apply to all incorporated companies except banks, railway, and insurance companies.

* * *

THE NORTHWEST TROUBLES

Mr. SCHULTZ, in moving a resolution for a Royal Commission to enquire into the Northwest disturbance, said the recent discussions of this House, as well as the indications of interest shown by the country generally through the press, proved the importance of the subject of which his motion treated. Perhaps no occurrence since Confederation had so engaged and agitated the public mind, and, so far from this interest having decreased, he believed it only to have changed to a general desire to have the causes of the occurrences of 1869 and the occurrences themselves thoroughly and impartially investigated, with a view to determining upon whom the responsibility for them rested, and with a view to preventing such occurrences in the future history of the settlement in the Northwest.

Hon. gentlemen in the recent debate had taken strong and opposite views as to these causes, and the very diversity of opinion expressed seemed to him to furnish an additional argument in favour of the necessity of the investigation which was the object of the motion. There were gentlemen in the House who believed, and who had expressed that belief in the recent debate, that the insurrection of 1869 was caused wholly by the ill-advised action of Canadians then in the country. He had himself asserted that the insurrection was mainly consequent on the dissatisfactions which existed among the officers of the Hudson Bay Company.

The hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) had, while denying this assertion, offered no other explanation, but contented himself with making a violent personal attack on the "Member for Lisgar" (Mr. Schultz).

In regard to this attack he now took the first occasion which the rules of debate afforded him to not only protest against such an unmanly manner of discussing a grave question, but to offer a flat contradiction to the statements made by the hon. gentleman from Selkirk in regard to himself and express a hope that in the future the hon. gentleman would confine himself to the subject of debate, and, if he felt personal attacks to be actually necessary, he would do well to support his charges with at least some show of proof. Till then he dismissed those charges with the contempt such unfounded and unproven allegations deserved, and would go on to show why such an expression of opinion from the House such as his motion implied was necessary.

It might be argued, and possibly would be argued, that such an inquiry as was sought by this motion was now going on in the Select Committee moved for by the hon. member for Selkirk. It would be remembered, however, that this Committee had, by the motion which created it, three subjects under its consideration. One of these was investigation into the causes of the insurrection; another was the question of amnesty; and the third the reasons why the granting of that amnesty had been delayed. Owing to the limited number and the accessibility of the witnesses necessary on the two latter subjects, he had no doubt but that this Committee would be enabled to obtain such evidence as would enable them to report fully on that portion of the work entrusted to them; but, while he believed this, he was also satisfied that, on the subject of investigating the causes of the insurrection, it would be impossible for the hon. gentlemen who composed that Committee—no matter how desirous they might be of doing their duty—to bring before the House a report which would be comprehensive and impartial enough to do justice to the subject.

He felt satisfied, from the character of witnesses summoned from Manitoba to give evidence as to these causes, from the fact that the gentleman who moved for and was now the Chairman of this Committee belonged to that Company, the officers of which he (Mr. Schultz) accused of complicity with those who were concerned in the rebellion of 1869, and from the fact that the interval till the close of the session would not be sufficient to supplement the witnesses now here with others from Manitoba who were not concerned in the rebellion itself or the Provisional Government which followed it, that the report of this Committee under the circumstances could not possibly be of a satisfactory and impartial nature.

In view of these facts, he was in favour of a Royal Commission. In the first place as it would hold its sittings in the Province where the disturbances occurred, and it would be in a position to take evidence from persons of all shades of political opinion and from representatives of all classes, nationalities and creeds. It could

procure, if the progress of the investigation showed the necessity of procuring it, evidence from parties now in the interior of the country. It would save the enormous expense entailed by the bringing of witnesses from Manitoba here, and, lastly, the evidence taken before it would be taken under the sanctity of an oath. As to the necessity of such an investigation, he might urge on general grounds that it was needed to settle an important but troublesome question, and to set at rest vexatious complications which have arisen out of it. As connected with the question of amnesty, it was important to determine the extent of Riel's accountability for the rebellion. Lastly, it was due to those who believed it to be their duty to support the cause of law and order, and to defend their lives and property in the Northwest.

As to himself, he could fairly lay claim to freedom from political bias in this matter. He had never in this House endeavoured to make this Riel question a political one, nor to throw the onus on either one or the other of the great political parties in the country. He did not wish now to embarrass the Government, but simply wanted that a measure of justice should be meted out to the English natives of Manitoba, to the loyal portion of the French Métis, and to the Canadians of the country, which their loyalty and their devotion merited, and which he believed the adoption of this motion would secure. He proceeded to state that he had altered the motion from the exact wording of the notice of motion so as to comply with the rule which excluded motions involving the expenditure of money, and would now move, seconded by Mr. Bowell (Hastings North), "that the origin of the occurrences of 1869-1870 in Manitoba and these occurrences themselves, be inquired into in that Province by a Royal Commission or otherwise".

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman had not in any way embarrassed the Government, but it appeared to him that the motion was unnecessary. The House would find that the reference of duties to the Committee now sitting was made in the following terms: "A Committee of seven members to inquire into the causes of the difficulties in the Northwest in 1869-1870 with special reference to the amnesty promised by Sir John Young (Governor General, 1869-1872) and any other promise of amnesty which may have been made." It would be seen that the Committee of the House now existing, and carrying on their enquiries, had ample power to make such enquiries as they might deem best in the public interest. He was not himself in favour of searching very minutely into the causes of these disturbances further than might be necessary in order to promote some public object.

The hon. gentleman in his motion on the notice paper gave as one of the reasons for asking for the Commission that certain allegations had been made of the danger of similar disturbances occurring in the valley of the Saskatchewan. The government were not informed of anything, privately or officially, that could lead to the supposition that there could be any fear of a disturbance in the Northwest. It seemed to him (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie), apart from the question of order, that it was extremely inexpedient that any Commission should be appointed to investigate matters which it was best should remain uninvestigated. The existing Committee had ample power to investigate matters as they might think necessary, and under these circumstances he would ask the hon. gentleman not to press his motion.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) pointed out that the present Committee had power to investigate matters connected with the Red River troubles, and if they could not complete the investigation during the sitting of the House, it would be within the power of the Committee to apply to the House to appoint a Royal Commission. This he thought would be more expedient than taking out of the hands of the Committee that which had been referred to them.

It might be that the investigation would prove to be a lengthy one, and that the Committee would not be able to complete during the present session the inquiry which had been submitted to them. The examinations that had taken place before the Committee already were of a lengthened character, and had embraced a considerable variety of the subjects contained within the three matters referred to the Committee. The witnesses were examined for a considerable time, and now their evidence was being examined and corrected. They had found it necessary, in the case of a single witness, to occupy four days in his examination, and in the correction of his evidence afterwards. If a Royal Commission were appointed now, it would to a great extent supersede the Committee.

Fourteen or sixteen witnesses were here to be examined, and he thought, whatever might be the intention of the Government, whether it would not be necessary to have a Royal Commission would depend upon what the enquiry elicited. It would be better for the mover to withdraw his resolution and leave it to the Committee themselves if they thought it necessary to report to the House that a Royal Commission was desirable; and he had no doubt, if that were the judgment they came to, the House and the Government would be willing to act upon it. In the meantime, he thought the motion was premature.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that in the motion which the hon. gentleman had put upon the notice paper, he asked for a Royal Commission to inquire into the causes of the Red River disturbances of 1869-1870, and into the alleged danger of a similar disturbance occurring in the valley of the Saskatchewan. The hon. gentleman had with great wisdom omitted the latter part of his motion but he had not displayed the same wisdom in moving for a Royal Commission to inquire into the causes of the occurrences in the Northwest in 1869-1870.

A Committee had already been appointed to inquire into the matter, although he (Hon. Mr. Blake) could not see that anything beneficial would result from inquiring into the causes of these troubles. He thought it would be inconvenient after a particular subject had been referred to a Select Committee that the same subject should be referred at the same time to a Royal Commission.

Whether the Committee did or did not propose a Royal Commission, whether it was or was not capable of discharging the duty assigned to it, the House could deal with the matter when it got the Committee's report but he thought it would be manifestly inconvenient, after unanimous resolutions of the House referring this question to a Committee, to order the issue of a Commission

upon the same topic. At the same time he hoped the hon. gentleman would withdraw his resolution.

Mr. SCHULTZ said that when the motion was made for a Committee he had objected to it, and then stated that he put a notice on the paper for the Commission about the same time a notice was put on for the Committee. This was the reason why he took this action, and he only pressed this matter now because he felt that while the Committee was perfectly competent on the two last subjects assigned to them, they would not at least have time to investigate the third subject.

He was willing, however, now for the Committee to continue the investigation and, if they found they could not bring in the report, that the remainder of the investigation should be completed by a Royal Commission. If this could be done, he would withdraw his motion.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said the Committee had the power of recommending to the House the appointment of a Royal Commission.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that he agreed that the motion of the hon. member for Lisgar was premature. He was taken a good deal by surprise when the motion for the Committee was carried; but he supposed the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Smith) had consulted the Government before he made a motion of such grave importance, which trod on such delicate ground. There was no doubt that the consent of the Government had been given to the motion, and he was surprised at the statement of the Premier that he was not in favour of inquiring into the causes of those occurrences. That was the main motion and basis of the inquiry.

A duty had been imposed on the Committee and that duty could not be avoided except by the consent of the House—that was the investigation into the cause of the disturbances in the Northwest. If, on reflection, the hon. head of the Government was of opinion that the inquiry had better be limited, steps should be taken by which the Committee would be given to understand that.

He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) considered that the Committee should be allowed to continue the investigation alone, and, if they were unable to complete that investigation, that they should recommend the appointment of a commission.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was quite evident that that reference was necessary to enable the Committee to make their enquiry effectual. He did not think it necessary to make any inquisitional enquiry of a hypercritical character into other causes which were not necessarily connected with the matter referred to the committee. He had assented to the appointment of the Committee without noticing at the moment the precise wording of the resolution.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he thought the motion was out of order. If the resolution of which notice had been given were put he would move an amendment to enlarge the enquiry. If they gave the cause they must also give the effect.

The motion was then withdrawn.

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SHORTEST MAIL ROUTE

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE moved for a Select Committee to inquire as to the best and most direct route for the conveyance of mails and passengers between the Dominion of Canada and Europe, the possibility of navigating the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the winter months, and of finding on the shores of the Dominion a harbour accessible both in winter and in summer, to be the terminus of such shortest route.

In speaking to his motion, he (Hon. Mr. Robitaille) referred to the inquiries which had been made last session, and to the able manner in which the subject had been introduced by an hon. member of this House. At that inquiry the relative claims of Paspébiac, Shippagan, and Louisbourg had been discussed; but it had been supposed that the ports on the St. Lawrence were altogether closed during the winter. He desired to ascertain whether this was the case, and, if not, whether they did not afford the best winter harbour which Canada possessed. (The remarks of the hon. gentleman were largely inaudible in the gallery.)

Mr. MACKAY said that a similar committee was appointed last year, but its labour was brought to a close by the close of the season. This was the most important matter which could come before the House, as it could be shown that the Dominion had the spot whence a more direct route to Europe could be found than the United States possessed.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD had no objection to the enquiry being made.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER also spoke in favour of the motion.

The motion was carried.

* * *

LEASING OF THE WHARVES AT QUEBEC

Mr. TREMBLAY moved for 1. Any correspondence between the Government and the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company, or any of the directors or agents thereof, on the subject of leasing the wharves below Quebec. 2. A statement showing the sums collected as wharfage dues established by the Department of Public Works, and the sums paid to the Government for each of the said wharves. 3. A statement showing the number of shares held by the ex-Minister of Public Works, the Hon. M. Langevin, C.B., in the stock of the said Tow Boat Company at the time when the lease of such wharves was granted to the Company.

In speaking to his motion he charged the late Minister of Public Works with having, for a consideration of stock, made an unusually favourable contract with the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company, whose toll exactions from the public were out of all proportion to the accommodation afforded.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE read a communication from Hon. Mr. Langevin, denying that at the time of the contract with the St.

Lawrence Tow Boat Company he had been a stockholder in the said company.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that, inasmuch as this was an attack upon one of his former colleagues, who was absent, it became necessary for him to say something in his defence. He denied that at the time of the giving of the contract M. Langevin had been a stockholder in the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company and produced an affidavit from Mr. Gaboury, Secretary of the Tow Boat Company, to that effect, adding that the contract was not with the Department of Public Works, but stating that it was with the Minister of Inland Revenue.

After some remarks from Mr. Fiset,

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he had some little knowledge of the inconveniences which had been occasioned to the public by the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company, who had a lease of the wharves, and charged a toll to all vehicles which came upon them, and if this were not paid the vehicles had to stay outside on the roads, to the detriment of the public convenience. This, he added, was exacted on the pretence of the money being expended on necessary repairs. He (Hon. Mr. Blake) thought that the Company had a very favourable contract, and should not attempt to exact more. He disapproved of the expenditure of public money by any Company, and said that repairs which were needed should not be done by the Company, but by the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE and **Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD** objected to the last clause of the motion, as relating to Hon. Mr. Langevin.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE promised to bring down all the information legitimately procurable. He did not think that a general company of this kind should be entrusted with the expenditure of public money.

The resolution was then carried, the last part of the motion relating to Hon. Mr. Langevin having been expunged.

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NORTH HURON ELECTION

Mr. FARROW moved for an address to His Excellency the Governor General for copies of all correspondence between the Government and Mr. Thomas Holmes, Returning Officer for the North riding of Huron, relating to the last election in that riding for a member to serve in the House of Commons. He said that the partisan Returning Officer at the time of the election had caused certain persons in the Centre riding of Huron, of the village of Ainleyville, to vote in the North riding, so that 33 votes that had been polled against him were fraudulent. The Returning Officer had also changed the day of voting, and had stated that he had received written instructions to do so.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that there was no objection to the motion. The only correspondence was the circular which had been issued to all the Returning Officers.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) said that there was no more fit or more capable Returning Officer than Mr. Holmes. The village of Ainleyville was partly in one riding and partly in another, and he believed that if the Returning Officer had compelled all the people of Ainleyville to vote in the North riding he had done perfectly right, as the northern division was the least populated.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE and **Hon. Mr. BLAKE** denied that the Government had given any improper instructions, the only thing that had passed between them being a circular suggesting to returning officers the advisability of the voting taking place on one day throughout the Province.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) called the hon. gentleman to order, explaining that the only question before the House was whether the Government had instructed the returning officer to cause the votes from one riding to be polled in another.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that if the object of the hon. gentleman was to know whether any instructions had been given to Returning Officers to take the same vote, he could assure him that no such correspondence would be found in the Department. He thought he had better withdraw the motion.

The motion was then withdrawn.

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ESCHEATS AND FORFEITURES

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved for a copy of an Act passed by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario at its last session, entitled "An Act to amend the law respecting escheats and forfeitures", together with all Orders in Council and all correspondence between the Governments of Canada and Ontario as to the said Act, or as to the matters affected by the said Act.

He said he had not seen the Act itself, and should defer any remarks until it was laid before the House. It appeared, however, that a portion of it was ultra vires, as to appealed-forfeitures for crimes, which could only be dealt with by this Parliament.

Hon. Mr. DORION said this question was one of great difficulty and was one which was attracting the attention of the Quebec Government. There was at present a question of jurisdiction whether or not escheats and forfeitures fell into the hands of the Dominion or those of the Provincial authorities. He said there had been no correspondence in respect to the Act. The matter was brought to his attention only a few days ago. He had not yet received the Act of the Ontario Parliament, but he had no objection to the motion passing. A similar case had occurred in Quebec, when a whole estate which had been escheated had been taken possession of.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he presumed that with respect to the law of escheats he had no doubt the Provincial legislature had the right of dealing, but the question of the respective right and jurisdiction might at any distant date arise, and with that view he had made this motion in order that the subject might have attention. He said he presumed the Provincial Legislatures had the right to deal with escheats as far as regarded

real estate. The question would arise, however, in case of escheat of estate by failure of all the heirs of the proprietor, whether the estate should go to the Sovereign or to the Provincial Government.

After some remarks from **Mr. MILLS**, the motion passed.

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INSPECTION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) moved for copies of correspondence respecting the appointment of an Inspector of Insurance Companies. He referred to his previous efforts to get an inspector appointed, and commented upon the importance of having such an office established. He quoted from statistics to show the great number of companies doing business in this country, and the enormous amount of money passing through their hands. He considered it was the duty of the Government to make some investigation into their mode of doing business.

He pointed out that the majority of those who invested in these institutions were comparatively poor, and the law afforded them at present but very little protection. He said a very large number of failures took place each year, causing great loss to share and policy holders, and he quoted several cases in point in each of which the dividend was less than four percent of the liabilities. He found that in many cases the liabilities of companies exceeded their assets, while they were still doing business, while in others the expenditure was five per cent greater than the receipts. He showed that some five millions of people were interested in these companies and he thought their affairs were a fair and just subject of investigation.

He hoped that even this session the Government would use their way to appoint such an officer as he referred to, who would have power to examine all the books and affairs of these companies; and he concluded by formally moving for the papers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no objection to the motion. It seemed to him, however, that the work of inspection could only be properly performed by an accomplished actuary, and it was evidently difficult to get a person of this class. In the United States great frauds had been perpetrated through the Inspector's office, and the question being one of the utmost importance, it behoved the Government to have a measure carefully matured before bringing it before the country. It was extremely doubtful if it could be prepared this session.

As had been properly said, its mere deposit of $50,000 with the Government was nothing by way of security, and it would be for the Government to devise some means to obtain greater security for insurers, and at the same time without doing injury to the Company, interfering as little as possible with its rights.

Mr. YOUNG said it was quite true that with regard to some American companies there was not sufficient security given, but he held that this did not obtain with native companies, which as a rule, were on a most sound and satisfactory footing affording security to the public. He was quite confident of the proposal for an efficient improvement which could not fail to secure confidence and do the companies themselves no harm.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) approved of the action taken by the member for Huron South (Mr. Cameron) and of the proposed inspection, but he hoped that no hasty measure would be brought into the House on the subject, and that the promised action in respect to the matter would be carried out to the full extent promised by the Premier. He thought it would be better to postpone the matter till next session.

Mr. SCATCHERD favoured the appointment of an Inspector, which he thought would be likely to put the public in possession of correct information, and establish greater confidence in those companies than there was at present. He thought the hon. member deserved the greatest credit for having brought the matter before the House.

Mr. SCRIVER also supported the appointment of an Inspector, and gave great credit to the hon. member for Huron South for his pains in collecting statistics and otherwise bringing the matter into prominence. He accounted for the success of American companies by the persistency and ingenuity of their travelling agents.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD looked with apprehension upon the appointment of a Government inspector. It might be instrumental in giving to a company a status which would be fallacious. Though there were a Government inspector, he might not give a proper report. Care had to be taken so as not to discriminate to the detriment of any one class of company. He was glad to hear that the subject had engaged the attention of the Government. He would suggest the formation among insurance men themselves of an association analogous to the Stock Exchange, which would itself determine as to the relative standing of the companies.

Hon Mr. MACKENZIE thought it would be quite possible to have full powers to examine and inspect the state of foreign companies, on the same principle as some States in the Union examined the books and affairs of Canadian companies doing business, or after proposing to do business, within their jurisdiction.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE commented upon the importance of insurance companies, and the large amounts of money which are invested in these institutions. He advocated a system of insurance which would give absolute security to the public, and he had no doubt such a system would soon do the most thriving business.

After a few words from **Mr. PALMER**, who spoke in support of an Inspector of Insurance Companies,

Mr. YOUNG said he had seen it stated that in case of a war between England and the United States, American policies in Canada would practically be cancelled.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said the policy would not be cancelled, but its payments would simply be suspended until the close of the war.

The motion was then carried.

MONTREAL CUSTOM HOUSE

Mr. RYAN moved for a return of appointments made since lst January, 1874, to the present date, to the Custom House in Montreal. He complained that too many appointments had been made for all the work there was to do, and what was wanted was quality rather than number.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) said there was no objection to the motion. The late Government had recommended some increases in salaries which in a number of cases were made, and in others were not. Any appointments made by the present Government were made on the recommendation of the responsible officers at Montreal.

The motion was then carried, and, it being six o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

DUTIES AT ST. JOHN

Mr. DOMVILLE moved for a comparative statement of the duties paid on imports at the Port of St. John, New Brunswick, for the first fifteen days of the month of April of the years 1873 and 1874, showing the description of goods, whether out of vessel or in bonded warehouse, and the names of the importers.—Carried.

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FORTIFICATIONS AND ORDNANCE LANDS

Mr. WILKES moved for a statement respecting fortifications, lands, and material of war transferred to the Government of this country by the Imperial Government. He said that he thought it was desirable that they should ascertain just what fortifications had been transferred to the Canadian Government, with a view to putting them in an efficient state. He heard that the fortifications at Quebec and on St. Helen's Island were not in that state.

With reference to Ordnance Lands, he said that there was a large piece in Toronto, and he did not know of what use it was at present. If it were ceded to the city it might be turned into a park. There were important fortifications at Kingston, which he thought should receive some attention from the Government, and the same on St. Helen's Island. He thought, however, that it might be well to allow the city to have the Ordnance land on the Island for a park, for which it would be very suitable.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government were taking a vote in the militia estimates to put the fortifications at Quebec, Kingston, and Point Lévis in good condition, and an officer had recently been sent to report on the condition of the buildings and walls of the forts at Quebec, which were said to be in a bad state, but his report was not intended to be an exhaustive one on the subject.

The Government had arranged to let the city of Montreal, on certain conditions, have St. Helen's Island for a public park, the Government retaining the fortifications and certain quantity of land in the vicinity. They had also let the city have Logan's Farm; but both this and St. Helen's Island the Government might resume possession of on an hour's notice. With reference to the ordnance land at Toronto he said that if the Government were likely to need it themselves immediately they would not let it out of their hands at all; but if they did let the city have it at all, it would only be temporary.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) was surprised to hear his hon. friend going in for such warlike preparations. It had always been his idea that, when they became an independent people, they should have a treaty of peace and surety with England and the States, as a means of settling difficulties without resort to arms. He contended that the forts were as absurd as those on the Rhine, and that the whole system of war was suited for a bygone age.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he supposed his hon. friend would be bringing in a Bill to do away with the Militia Department; that was the logical consequence of his observations. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) said he would be quite willing to do so, and he thought we would be quite as prepared without it to defend ourselves as we are now. (*Laughter.*)

The motion was carried.

* * *

A CANADIAN *HANSARD*

Mr. YOUNG moved that a Select Committee, composed of nine members, viz., the Hon. Messrs. Cauchon and Tupper, and Messrs. De Cosmos, Dymond, Buell, Burpee (Sunbury), Davies, Ross (Middlesex West), and the mover, be, and are hereby appointed to report to this House the most effectual and cheapest mode of obtaining the publication of a Canadian *Hansard*, containing a correct report of the proceedings and speeches in this House, the work to be commenced next session.

He said that he need not enlarge very much upon the motion —that spoke for itself. He believed that there were some members of the House who had felt not only the desirability, but the actual necessity, of having a correct report of their proceedings. They could not expect that in a city like this full reports would be published in the ordinary newspaper press, and although the leading papers of Toronto and Montreal had an excellent staff in the gallery, yet, on account of having to telegraph their reports, it was almost impossible to prevent errors from creeping into them.

If it was considered that the reporters had to work very late at night, that the reports had to be telegraphed, that they had to be taken off the wires at the ends of the line, and that they had then to be printed and published in the papers at four o'clock next morning, it was quite evident, from a mere statement of the facts, how impossible it was for them to obtain full or accurate reports in that way.

He thought it was of great importance that they should have a full report of the speeches delivered here. He believed it was important to the people. He believed the people had as much right to know how their representatives speak in this House as well as how they vote. It was not less important to the representatives themselves, most of whom, he was sure, must have seen themselves credited every week, in reports of their speeches, with statements they never thought of making, not, however, from any want of ability of carefulness on the part of the reporters for the press, but from the circumstances that the reports have to be prepared late at night, and telegraphed before appearing in print.

This matter had been delayed from session to session, and he thought it was now time to take it up. He could well understand how valuable a *Hansard* might be in time to come. If they could have a correct record of the speeches made it would, in fact, be our history, commercially, constitutionally, and otherwise. They had in this House gentlemen who were responsible mainly for the Confederation of this Dominion, and it might be important in future years, when these gentlemen had passed away, to be able to turn to their speeches, and see how they regarded the various portions of that constitution under which we are to be governed for all time to come.

Objections had, he believed, been raised to the publishing of the debates, but they had not, in his opinion, much force. The first of these had reference to the question of expense. He believed they now kept one man engaged in the Library in pasting the reports of different newspapers into a book. Now it seemed to him contemptible that this Dominion had to preserve the speeches of its public men in this way. He had no doubt that a Select Committee would be able to propose a scheme which would not be seriously expensive. In fact, if they considered the total expenditure of this House, the amount would be comparatively trifling.

It had been urged that if they were to publish the debates in this way they would have gentlemen speaking at inordinate length. Now, he believed the publication of reports of the speeches in the *Hansard* would have the opposite effect. Gentlemen knew that they might say the most absurd things and that by the generosity of the gentlemen in the gallery they would be rounded off into shape, but if they knew they were to be fully reported they would be more useful about what they said, and the tendency would be toward the curtailment of the debates.

He thought that at any rate the *Hansard* would have the effect of raising the tone of the debate. In England, in the United States and in Australia the debates were reported, and probably the best report of the kind he had seen, outside of the English *Hansard*, was that published by the Legislature of the little Colony of New Zealand. In Nova Scotia the debates were published; in New Brunswick they were published until recently, and copies of the report were to be found in the library. If he was not mistaken, the Legislature of Prince Edward Island also published theirs. He thought that if these Provinces were able to do this, it was absurd to say that this Dominion could not publish the debates which took place in its Legislature. He hoped the House would have no hesitation in granting this Committee.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER, in seconding the motion, said that he did not think he need say anything in addition to the remarks which had been made by the hon. gentleman who had just spoken with reference to having a correct report of the debates. He did not intend to say anything which would reflect upon the Press of either this or other cities, but he would say that in the reporting of the debates there was room for improvement. In Ottawa, a city of comparatively small size, it was unreasonable to expect the papers to give a full report of the speeches in that House; and the great trouble and expense of sending reports by telegraph rendered it very difficult to have adequate reports published in papers in other cities.

It was well known that he had taken a very great interest in this matter from the first time that he had entered this House, but he was satisfied that no great good would be accomplished unless the Government could be induced to take the matter up. He might say that if matters had remained as they were, the late Government would have been disposed to submit to parliament a scheme for the reporting of debates, and he could assure hon. gentlemen opposite that it would give him the greatest possible pleasure to co-operate with them in regard to this proposal in any way, to give effect to what he thought was indispensable, not only with a view to giving information to the people throughout the country, but with a view to the still more important object of furnishing perhaps the only reliable means that historians would have of gaining information as to the events which were transpiring in the present day. He had no doubt that the time would come when these early phases in the history of our Dominion would be regarded with the most intense interest, and when people would seek with the same avidity as we now do for authentic materials of what was going on in former days. He trusted the subject would receive in all its relations the consideration which he thought its importance demanded.

The motion was carried.

* * *

JUDGES' TRAVELLING EXPENSES

Mr. BÉCHARD moved for copies of all accounts, claims and certificates presented and transmitted from 1st July, 1867, to 1st April, 1874, to the Dominion Government by each of the Judges of the Superior Court for the Province of Quebec, in his capacity as such, for all travelling expenses and hotel expenses in any place other than that in which such judge had orders to reside or should have resided, either for sitting or for acting therein, or for holding therein in such capacity a court in civil, criminal, or other matters, together with a detailed statement of the several sums paid in conformity with such accounts, claims, and certificates.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the accounts could be given for the two years previous to the present year, but not for the present year.

The motion was carried.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved for copies of all correspondence, and reports of Railway Commissioners, Orders in Council, accounts, and papers of every description relating to claims connected with contracts on the Intercolonial Railway, from No. 1 to No. 7 inclusive and all payments made for the same under authority of a resolution passed by this House during the session of 1873.

The House would recollect, he said, that at the last session a motion was carried authorizing the Government to make payments to settle with the former contractors on those contracts that were originally left on account of insufficiency of information, and which the contractors, with the exception perhaps of those on number two, had failed to settle on certain terms, namely, the resolution which was carried by the House; and under the authority of that resolution the Commissioners were instructed to ascertain the number and extent of the claims.

Subsequently, the Commissioner, having obtained the information, made a report to the Government, but that report was made in the absence of a number of members of the Board. They only undertook to recommend absolutely the payments to what was called parties who had direct claims against the original contractors. In the absence of the full Board the Government left over the question without deciding as to whether the claims against the sub-contractors should be entertained or not.

He was anxious that the papers relating to sections four and seven should be laid on the table, because a number of his constituents were deeply interested in the determination of these claims.

The fact was that the parties to whom the contract was given by the Commissioner, and with the sanction of the Government, undertook the construction of the work without sufficient information on the subject. They obtained the labour, money, and means in a variety of forms, and having proceeded with their work to a certain extent, they were unable to finish and left the country. The Government passed a remedial measure to pay a fair value for the work done. They allowed the direct claims, leaving the indirect ones for a full board to decide upon.

The main portions of those direct claims had been paid, and he hoped that parties who had devoted their money to the work in good faith would not be placed in such a position as to lose any means of redress. The only ground on which they could be prevented from receiving the money would be on the ground that they were employed by a sub-contractor, who had been employed by the contactor; but he contended that the contract itself expressly provided against sub-contractors being employed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman had spoken generally of these particular contracts being given out with insufficient data, and it was upon this ground that the contractors based their claims. The contractor had based claims of all kinds upon the contracts, and were causing an endless amount of trouble to the Department. With regard to this particular one, the hon. member said there could be no sub-contracts because they were not allowed, but the hon. gentleman must know that the bulk of the claims were made by sub-contractors.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the consideration as to whether the payments should be made on what were called sub-contracts had been left an open question by the Commissioner, who only recommended payment of direct claims.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was quite competent for the Government to overrule that decision, but they did not do so. The hon. gentleman said many of his constituents were interested in the question, and he thought he remembered a promise made by the hon. gentleman to his constituents before his election, that the Government should attend to that matter. With that pledge, however, the Government had nothing to do, a large proportion of the claims were bought, as the hon. gentleman had stated last year, by parties at a very large discount, in fact one of the Commissioners who was to adjudicate upon these claims had purchased some.

The Chief Engineer had ordered that these claims should not be paid till more information was had on the matter. A number of claims were unpaid, which, however, might yet be paid on this account. He should want to know who owned those claims, and what amount they received from them, before he gave his consent as head of the department to pay any of them.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER explained that the late Government only authorized the payment to any party of the amount he had actually paid.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was necessary that there should be some enquiry before these claims were finally paid. Almost all other sections had been paid.

Mr. POULIOT desired to have a statement of the extra work done added to the motion, to which Hon. Mr. Tupper agreed.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that undoubtedly it was a very gross impropriety in any Commissioner to be found dealing in these matters.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he made no charge against the Commissioner, but he had refused to settle the claims until it was explained how that gentleman came to be possessed of them.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE desired to see his hon. friend Mr. Young, who presided over the public accounts, have the matter brought up before that Committee.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

HALIFAX RAILWAY EXTENSION

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved for copies of all reports of the Minister of Public Works, Order in Council, correspondence with the Imperial Government, or any other parties touching the extension of the railway into the City of Halifax. He said his object in making this motion was that this correspondence should be laid upon the table of the House. He explained the course adopted by the

Government in regard to this extension, and said he was gratified to find that the Order in Council passed during the period the late Administration had charge of affairs for an additional grant for this purpose had been given effect to, and that the amount had been placed in the estimates by their successors.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) was also glad to see that a sum had been placed in the estimates for this purpose, and he hoped the work would be proceeded with as expeditiously as possible.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE repeated his explanations upon this point made a few evenings ago. The Government were at present endeavouring to purchase the end of the right of way to the dockyard, and had secured a bond from the land-holders for the sale of the property at a fixed price.

The motion was carried.

* * *

NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LAW

Mr. JETTÉ moved for copies of all correspondence in the possession of the Government relating to the sum voted in the first session of 1873 to meet the costs of an appeal to Her Majesty's Privy Council with reference to the constitutionality of the Common School law of New Brunswick passed in 1871, and a statement of all sums paid for the purpose above-mentioned.—Carried.

* * *

INGONISH HARBOUR, NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. PALMER moved for a statement of expenditure for the improvement of the Harbour of Ingonish, South Cape Breton. He strongly objected to the expenditures and considered there was no necessity for spending so much money on a harbour at such an out of the way and insignificant place.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER defended the action of the late Government in connection with the expenditure, on the ground that it was useful as a harbour of refuge.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the present Government were simply carrying out a contract entered into by their predecessors, but at any rate he saw no public reason why it should have been broken. He held that the only objection which could be taken to the voter was that it was not necessary in the interest of public business, and no other argument against it should be listened to.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) contended that the appropriation for the improvement of this harbour was necessary for the proper protection of the fishing craft off the coast of Cape Breton. A long stretch of sea coast on either side of this point was without any harbour or place of refuge. The fishermen did a great portion of their fishing off Ingonish during the summer season, and in case of the approach of a storm they had to go to Sydney or some other harbour equally distant, leaving their ground and losing a considerable portion of their valuable time.

He thought the references of the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Palmer) rather unfortunate, as they simply showed that, however much he might be at home on such subjects as judges' salaries, he had not as yet learned the ABC of the geography of Nova Scotia, and much less of the necessities of seafaring men.

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton) pointed out that this was the only harbour of refuge on that coast, and that the proposed expenditure was one absolutely required.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he had visited this place, and he thought it a very desirable one for the construction of a harbour. The fishing interest was one of the most important in the country, and, as there was no other harbour of refuge within forty or fifty miles, it was necessary that this harbour should be constructed, if it could be at a moderate expense. He was glad to see that the present Government intended to carry out the policy initiated by the late Government with regard to this matter.

After a few remarks from Mr. Palmer,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE commented upon the inconsistency of the hon. member for St. John's passing over an item of $50,000 last year without question, and this year taking exception to one for the same purpose which only amounted to $40,000. He characterized the statement of the hon. member that the present Government should break up the contract as most extraordinary, especially from a legal gentleman.

After some further discussion, the motion was carried.

Mr. PALMER moved for a return showing the number of inhabitants and the amount of imports of the harbour of Ingonish, South Cape Breton, for the past year.—Carried.

* * *

OAKVILLE HARBOUR

Mr. CHISHOLM moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government and Mr. R.K. Chisholm, and all other persons, relating to Oakville harbour since the lst day of January, 1870; also, for a copy of the agreement between the Government and one Shewell, purchaser of the said harbour, together with a statement of the amount of money paid by the said Shewell and the amount of his indebtedness to the Government on account of all money paid by the Government to or received from any person in relation to the same since the lst January, 1870.—Carried.

* * *

LUMBER SLIDES ON THE OTTAWA RIVER

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) moved for a return showing the sums expended on capital account in the construction of slides, dams, piers, booms, and other works to facilitate the passage of timber and saw logs on the Ottawa River and its tributaries up to 31st December last.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE suggested that the hon. gentleman should include the sums expended chargeable to income, as well as

the amount expended on capital account, as he would then get a clearer idea as to the amount expended on these works.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) agreed to the suggestion, and the motion was carried.

* * *

PORTAGE ISLAND

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL moved for the correspondence between the Government of Canada and the British Government in reference to the transfer of Portage Island to the Government of Canada. He explained that the object of the motion was that the interests of the French inhabitants of the Island should be protected.

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SECTION 12, INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. McDONNELL moved for correspondence, et cetera, respecting Section 12 of the Intercolonial Railway. His object in asking for these papers was to have them laid before the Committee on Public Accounts.

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ST. JOHN BALLAST WHARF

Mr. PALMER moved for a statement of the amount expended on the extension of the railway between Shediac and St. John to the ballast wharf at St. John.

Mr. PICKARD hoped that if a bridge were built, it would be over the falls.

The motion carried.

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NORTHWEST COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Mr. SCHULTZ moved for copies of Acts passed and appointments made by the Council of the Northwest Territories.—Carried.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved for a return of claims filed against the contractors for sections 8, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 19.

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PORT STANLEY HARBOUR

On motion of **Mr. CASEY**, Mr. Walker was added to the Select Committee on Port Stanley harbour.

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TAXATION AND REVENUE

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved "that this House, having been asked to increase the taxation of the people to the extent of three million dollars per annum, is entitled to the fullest information in reference to the financial position of the country, and that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause copies of the returns of the receipts of revenue to the twentieth day of April instant, to be laid before the House".

He said he must ask the indulgence of the House while he laid before it the grounds for the motion which he had felt it his duty to make to the House. It would be recollected that he asked for the House what he believed he was safe in saying no other Government before ever refused to the humblest member of Parliament on similar occasions, that they should lay before the House the latest information in their power in relation to the financial affairs of the country.

The occasion on which that request was made was one of very great moment to the country. The Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had submitted to the House an exposition of the financial affairs of the country, in which he claimed that the commercial outlook of the country was so gloomy, that the failure of the revenue to meet the expenditure of the country was so marked, that he was compelled to apply to Parliament for power to levy additional taxation on the people of the Dominion to the extent of $3,000,000 per annum.

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) listened with great attention to the statement made by the hon. gentleman, and he felt satisfied, not only from his own knowledge of the position of the country, but from the figures the hon. gentleman had himself submitted to the House, that he was entirely mistaken as to the financial position of the country. He wished to state that issue clearly and distinctly, and the points on which the Hon. Minister of Finance and himself differed, viz.:—First, the grounds on which he had arrived at the opinion that the Finance Minister was mistaken as regarded the commercial position of the country. Secondly, in reference to there being a deficit, as stated in the speech with which Parliament was opened; and thirdly, as to the existence of any necessity for additional taxation to the extent of $3,000,000 per annum.

The official statement laid upon the table by the Government entirely contradicted the grounds the hon. gentleman had taken in reference to the commercial prospects of the country. He found, by reference to these public documents, that there had been a steady increase in the business of the country and in the exports, imports, and revenue from the navigation of the Dominion down to the present time; that at no period in the history of the Dominion had the outlook been better than at present.

From the trade and navigation returns it appeared that the increase on the export of 1873 over 1872 and the products of the fisheries was $438,769, and the increased products of forests for the same period was $4,901,434, and in the products of animals there had been an increase over the previous year of no less than $1,826,414, and on agricultural products there had been an increase of $1,616,784. On the mineral products of the country there had been an increase of $2,534,554. On manufactures there was exhibited an increase of $532,367. These exports indicate with unerring certainty the real condition of the country. Then, touching the imports, these have increased in the year 1873 over the year

1872, by $1,842,392. He claimed that these figures refuted the position of the Hon. Minister of Finance. He noted other figures of what he considered a similarly incontrovertible character to show that the Hon. Minister of Finance was not justified in his statement of the financial position.

He was proceeding to state that the Hon. gentleman was not justified in announcing that there was a deficit when,

The SPEAKER called him to order, on the ground that he was not speaking to the motion. It was not allowable to discuss the estimates at this stage.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER thought he would be able, if the House would allow him, to show that he was in order. He preferred to make his statement on the present occasion rather than on the motion to go into Committee of Supply because he did not wish to attach the least party advantage to the question. He merely desired to convince the hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House that they would be doing right in sustaining his motion.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON rose to a point of order, and claimed that it was irregular for the hon. gentleman to discuss the estimates upon a motion for papers.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the rule of action which his hon. friend had violated should be stated.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said if the point of order were waived, he would have no objection to the hon. member proceeding, but he claimed the right of reply.

The SPEAKER said the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) was out of order in anticipating the discussion which would be involved by an order on the notice paper.

After some discussion,

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he had no alternative but to withdraw his motion, and make it upon going into Committee of Supply. (*Cries of "no, no".*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that before the hon. gentleman was allowed to withdraw his motion—if he were to be allowed to withdraw it—he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) wished to say that the information was not refused; and that if the hon. gentleman now moved his resolution, he would find an amendment moved to it to give that information coupled with other facts which were necessary to place it in a proper light.

The withdrawal of the motion was not permitted.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the said motion be amended by inserting after the word "resolved" the words—"That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency for a statement showing the receipts of revenue up to the 21st day of April 1874 and also the comparative receipts for the first twenty days of April in the years 1873 and 1874; together with the quantity of Excisable goods in bond on the 1st and 15th days of April in 1873 and 1874 and on the lst day of July, 1873."

Hon. Mr. TUPPER spoke at some length, condemning the Government for not giving the information, and attributed it to the pressure which had been brought to bear upon them by the resolution he had put on the notice paper, and by the independent gentlemen behind him.

After having been called to order several times, the hon. gentleman resumed his seat.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. member was rather emphatic on nothing; but he would ask him if he could name a single one who had exercised this gentle pressure on the Government of which he had spoken. Not a single member of that House had ever addressed the Government on the subject.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said if hon. gentlemen had allowed him to proceed with his motion and bring them to a vote he should have had no occasion to give the name.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE only warned the hon. gentleman that his emphatic declarations had less and less weight with the House the oftener they were favoured with them. He denied that the Government had refused to give the information. They had only stipulated to couple it with facts which would place that information in its true light. Without that additional information it could only have the effect of misleading the House. He had shown that it would have been utterly valueless, and it would have shown an abnormal state of accounts produced by the coming duty.

He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) said this in order that the hon. gentleman might not imagine that he had frightened the Government into any concession in this matter, although perhaps his appearance and extraordinary manner were calculated to produce some such effect.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the leader of the Government had stated that they did not refuse this information if coupled with other facts, but he had agreed to their coupling it with any information, but they had suppressed it. He would say in conclusion that if the subtraction he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) proposed to make in his motion was the three million of increased taxation, the country would be extremely delighted to hear it.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT denied that he had refused the information.

After some further discussion the amendment was carried.

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THE SHORTEST ROUTE

By resolution of the House, Hon. Mr. Tupper was then added to the Committee appointed to consider the shortest route to Europe.

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THE USURY LAWS

Mr. PALMER moved the second reading of the bill to repeal the laws relating to usury. The object he had in this motion was to ascertain whether it was desirable to retain in the different

Provinces the laws relating to usury, which were continuously evaded.

He explained that in the Province of New Brunswick private persons were allowed to charge only six per cent on money, while the banks charged seven per cent. He could not understand why dealing in money should not be free the same as other articles, and, this being his view he had introduced this measure.

Hon. Mr. DORION said if the hon. gentleman had proposed to make the law of New Brunswick the same as that of the rest of Canada his bill might not have been opposed. By the law which the hon. gentleman desired to pass, there would be no restriction throughout Canada on the rate of interest to be exacted. He was not disposed to open the gate and let people lend money at such rates, and therefore should oppose this measure. He added that the societies which now existed for loan purposes were perfectly satisfied with the rates they now received.

Mr. PALMER said he would make the money trade entirely a matter of bargain. He would be willing to accept amendments in Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the notion that every sale of commodities should be perfectly free met with his sympathy. It would be inconvenient to re-open the question as far as Ontario and Quebec are concerned. The best way might be to apply the Bill to those portions of the Dominion which now suffered from restrictions.

Mr. PALMER had no objection.

Hon. Mr. DORION said if he would assimilate the law of New Brunswick to that of Ontario and Quebec, he would find every purpose answered.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL suggested that the bill be read a second time, and have it amended in accordance with the views of the Ministry when it passed through Committee.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON was persuaded, in view of the discussions in the past, that the member for St. John (Mr. Palmer) could not go further than assimilate the law of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with those of Ontario and Quebec. If he would confine himself to this he would have with him a majority of the House. He suggested that the hon. gentleman introduce a Bill to that effect.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said if the hon. gentleman would withdraw his bill and introduce a measure in the manner he had indicated he would have every facility afforded to him.

Mr. WILKES agreed with the remarks of the hon. members for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) and Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) but he assured the House that the Usury Law was an anomalous one, and did not give general satisfaction. He trusted that before long a measure might be introduced to amend the whole system. He thought the whole question should be considered by Ministers.

Mr. GOUDGE hoped this Bill would be withdrawn. The present law was working admirably.

Mr. FORBES said the people in Nova Scotia were quite satisfied with the present law.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) hoped the hon. gentleman would leave Nova Scotia affairs in the hands of Nova Scotia members.

The order was then discharged, and the file withdrawn.

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GREENVIEW POST OFFICE

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) submitted the correspondence and papers in connection with the Greenview Post Office, in the County of Hastings.

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SALT INSPECTION

On motion of **Mr. CAMERON (Huron South)**,

The House went into Committee on the resolution declaring it expedient to provide for the inspection of salt manufactured in Canada, and for the appointment of Salt Inspectors, **Mr. FORBES** in the chair.

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

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) then introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time.

* * *

BUSINESS FOR TUESDAY

In reply to Hon. Mr. Tupper,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the business of tomorrow would be the Election Bill, probably the Estimates, and possibly an opportunity would be afforded him of making that speech of his on the tariff question.

The House adjourned at 11.55 p.m.

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NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. DYMOND—On Wednesday next—To move that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General on the subject of the Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Act respecting copyrights" passed by the two Houses of the Parliament of Canada in the session of 1872, and reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure on the 14th day of June of that year.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—That he will on Wednesday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill entitled "An Act declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, within the meaning of Section 92 of the British North America Act of 1867".

Mr. TROW—On Wednesday—Enquiry whether it is the intention of the Government to abolish postage upon newspapers in the county where published.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER gives notice that he will, on Monday next, move that the House do go into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—That it is expedient to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 49, entitled "An Act to amend and consolidate, and to extend to the whole Dominion of Canada the laws respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce" and to incorporate the amendments in one Act with the remaining provisions of the Act amended.

Mr. PLUMB—Enquiry whether the Solicitor of the Welland Canal resigned his office prior to the late election; whether, if he resigned, he had been re-appointed, and whether, if not re-appointed, he is conducting the business of the said office; and what are its estimated emoluments for the past and current year.

Mr. BLAIN gives notice that he will move for leave to bring in a Bill to join the incorporated village of Richmond Hill to the West riding of the County of York for electoral purposes.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER—On Wednesday next—Will move for an humble Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying for a return of all appointments made since the lst November last, to the inside service of the Post Office Department, with the names of such officers, the dates of the appointment and their salaries respectively.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, April 28, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. BLAKE presented the petition of Mr. Thompson (Cariboo), setting forth that he had been duly elected to represent that constituency, but in consequence of some difficulty was unable to take his seat; and praying that the House might take such steps as would enable him to do so.

The following petitions were presented:—For an Act of Incorporation for the Board of Trade of St. John, Quebec; of the European and North American Railway Company, praying for amendments to their Act; for protection to manufacturers.

A large number of petitions, praying for a prohibitory liquor law, were presented.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table returns relating to Section 13 of the Intercolonial Railway.

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THE TARIFF IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. BUNSTER presented the report of the Select Committee on the British Columbia tariff, recommending greater protection to agriculturists than was afforded by the Canadian tariff, and the enactment of one specially suited to the necessities of the Province. A list of imports upon which a special tariff should, in the opinion of the Committee, be imposed, was appended. It suggests that no changes be made which would in any way affect the Terms of Union.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the report could not be received, as it suggested a change in the tariff. The report was left on the table, the impression being that it was illegal and irregular.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the first report of the Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, reporting certain bills, among them the Caughnawaga Ship Canal bill and the Grand Trunk Railway amendment bill.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE presented the report of the Committee on the most direct route to Europe, recommending the reduction of the quorum to five.

Mr. RYMAL presented the sixth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Mr. TREMBLAY—To provide that the election of members of the House of Commons of Canada be by ballot.

Mr. DOMVILLE—To incorporate the Provincial Steamship Company.

Mr. IRVING—To incorporate the Neutral Link Railway Company.

Mr. SCHULTZ—To incorporate the Exchange, Loan and Trust Company of Manitoba.

Mr. PALMER—Respecting usury in the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. JETTÉ—To incorporate the Standard Marine Insurance Company of Canada; also to change the name of the Victoria Bank of Canada to that of the Manufacturers' Bank of Canada; also to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 106, incorporating the Canada Investment and Guarantee Agency.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved that the name of Mr. Fiset be added to the Public Accounts Committee.—Carried.

Mr. DOMVILLE moved that the name of Mr. De Veber be added to the same Committee.—Carried.

* * *

YALE, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that on Friday last the Speaker had announced that the Clerk had received a supplementary return from the Returning officer of the electoral district of Yale, British Columbia. This showed that the original return must have been, to some extent, a special return. He thought such irregularities ought not to be passed over *sub silentio*, and he therefore moved that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery be directed to attend this House tomorrow with the original and supplementary returns made by the Returning officer of the electoral district of Yale, and the papers forwarded therewith.

Hon. Mr. DORION had no objection to the motion but remarked that the great distance of the polling places in Yale had been the cause of the irregularity.

The motion carried.

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MILITARY COLLEGE

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) moved that the House, on Thursday next, go into Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions providing for the establishment of a Military College in one of the Garrison towns.—Carried.

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THE PACIFIC RAILWAY AND THE CANALS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the House go into Committee on Thursday on the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorize the raising by way of loan, for the purpose of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the improvement and enlargement of the Canadian canals, of a sum of money not exceeding 8,000,000 pounds sterling.

2nd. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that such portions of the said loan as shall not be raised upon the guarantee of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, as mentioned in the following resolutions, may be raised in such manner as the Governor in council may direct under the provisions of the Act 35 Vic., Cap. 6, entitled "An Act respecting the public debt and raising of loans authorized by Parliament", and that the principal and interest thereof shall be chargeable upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada.

3rd. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that of the said sum of 8,000,000 pounds sterling, a sum not exceeding 3,600,000 pounds may be raised with the guarantee of the Treasurer under the Imperial Act known as the "Canada (Public Works) Loan Act, 1873", in such manner and form and on such conditions as they think fit, at a rate of interest not exceeding 4 per cent per annum, and subject to the following provisions: The Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with the payment of the principal and interest of any loan guaranteed by the Treasury, under the said Imperial Act, immediately after the charge for the loan of the sum of three hundred thousand pounds sterling, payable to the Hudson's Bay Company, created by the Act of the Parliament of Canada, 32-33 Vic., Cap. 1.

The Government of Canada shall pay a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent per annum on the entire amount of the loan guaranteed by the Treasury, as aforesaid, and the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with the payment of such sinking fund immediately after the principal and interest of each last-mentioned loan. The Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with any sum issued out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom under the Canada (Public Works) Loan Act, 1873, with interest thereon at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, immediately after the said sinking fund. Due payment and application of the money raised by any loan guaranteed by the Treasury under the Act last mentioned shall be assumed and certified in such manner as the Treasury may from time to time direct. The annual sums for the sinking fund shall be remitted to the Treasury in equal half-yearly payments in such manner as they from time to time direct and for the investment and accumulation thereof under their direction in the names of four trustees nominated from time to time—two by the Treasury and two by the Government of Canada.

The said sinking fund may be invested only in such securities as the Government of Canada and the Treasury may from time to time agree upon, and shall, whether invested or not, be applied from time to time, under the direction of the Treasury, in discharging the principal of the loan guaranteed by the Treasury as aforesaid, and the interest arising from such securities (including the interest accruing in respect of any part of any loan discharged by means of the said sinking fund) and the resulting income thereof shall be invested and applied as part of such sinking fund.

4th. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that, subject to the foregoing provisions as aforesaid, the moneys raised shall be applied and expended for the purposes mentioned in the preceding resolutions only in such manner and in such proportions as the Parliament of Canada may have authorized, and that a detailed account of all moneys so expended shall be laid before the House of Commons of Canada during the first fifteen days of the then next session of the Canadian Parliament.

* * *

THE ELECTION LAW

The House went into Committee on **Hon. Mr. DORION's** Election Bill, **Mr. MILLS** in the chair.

On section 18, relating to the form of nomination,

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) suggested that the nomination paper be signed by at least twenty-five electors, and that with it a deposit of $100 be made as a guarantee of good faith.

Hon. Mr. DORION consented to adopt the suggestion.

Mr. CURRIER suggested that where there were more than 2,000 voters on the list, 100 nominations should be required.

Mr. McISAAC pointed out that to have a large number of nominators was against the principle of secret voting.

After some further discussion the section was adopted.

The 19th section, requiring the consent of candidates to their nomination, and the 20th, as to the attestation of the nomination paper, were adopted, the latter after a few verbal amendments.

Sections 22 and 23, relating respectively to the return when there are no more candidates than vacancies, the accompaniment of the return by a report of the proceedings, and the notice of polls, were carried, after some discussion.

On clause 24, allowing candidates to withdraw at any time before the close of the poll, a discussion arose. It was finally carried as it stood.

Clause 25, referring to the hours of polling, was passed without discussion.

On clause 26, relating to the form of the ballot paper,

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT advocated the system in force in Ontario and Great Britain, on the ground that it afforded greater facility for the punishment, if not the prevention, of personation and fraudulent voting. He moved in amendment that each paper shall have a number printed on the back, and shall have attached a counterfoil with the same number on the face of it. He said he moved this as a sort of test question, to ascertain whether the Government or the House would be willing to accede to the system.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the desire of the Government was simply to provide the best system. He quoted from the evidence sent from South Australia to England showing that the system he proposed had worked well there, that there was very little personation or fraudulent voting under it, and that the advocates of the ballot there were unwilling to make any change which would endanger its absolute secrecy. The Government had carefully considered the arguments in favour of both systems, and had concluded to accept that which gave the most perfect and absolute secrecy.

He held that the system adopted in Britain and Upper Canada was as yet untried, and no one knew how it might work, while, on the other hand, this system had been tried in general elections in the colony of Australia and found to work exceedingly well. If the Ontario law were found to work better than that which he proposed, it could be adopted, but in the meantime he thought it better to stand by the proposed system.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) supported the amendment of Hon. Mr. Abbott.

Mr. RYAN thought there should be provision made for giving redress to a candidate who had suffered from impersonation by voters.

Mr. THOMSON (Welland) said he proposed to vote for every clause in this Bill. The leading feature of the measure was supported on both sides of the House, and as for the various details, they could only know how they would work after they had been tried.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said that they would have an opportunity before they were likely to have another election for this House of judging on the merits of the ballot by the use of it in the next Ontario election. If this trial showed that the present bill required amendment, it could be made before an election took place under it.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD contended that, if the impersonations were few, the cases in which secrecy would be violated were also few, and he thought that justice to the people was of far more importance than secrecy in any one case. Besides which, secrecy would not be violated in the case of a genuine vote, the search only being made in the case of impersonation.

He also censured the Government for their apparent desire to carry things all their own way and pay no attention to suggestions from hon. gentlemen on his side of the House.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE replied at considerable length, maintaining his former proposition.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT explained the operation of his proposed numbered ballot and counterfoil, the number on the counterfoil being not necessarily the same as that on the voter's list, but one of another set of numbers to that which might be accorded to the voters.

The subject was still under discussion when the House rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS

The amendment was put and lost, and the clause, as it stood, was carried.

Upon the amendment for the adoption of the 26th clause,

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT asked if it would not be well to take precaution against ballots being slipped into the box which did not come from the Returning officer's hand.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that in some cases ballots were initialled, but he had thought this a senseless formality which would delay the voting. However, the clause might be allowed to pass, and he would consider the matter again, and if he came to the conclusion that it was necessary to do anything in the direction the hon. gentleman indicated, he would make provision for it in the Bill.

The clause then passed.

In the next clause a verbal amendment was made on the suggestion of **Mr. BLAIN**.

The next clause, which required the expenditure of money, was allowed to stand for the present.

Clauses 29 to 37 were allowed to pass with but slight amendments.

On clause 38 under which Judges are disqualified from voting,

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT suggested that there was an omission to exclude officers of Customs and Excise.

Hon. Mr. DORION said, in answer to Hon. Mr. Abbott, that under the ballot he could not see why Government officials, including customs officials, should not vote. He thought everyone should vote under the ballot. His motive for prohibiting judges from voting was that he did not think it desirable they should mix themselves up in politics, because, if they did, they would not have

the confidence reposed in them by the public it was desirable they should have.

Mr. SCATCHERD thought the County Court Judges, who had not to try election petitions, should have the right to vote.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said they would have to revise the voters list.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he thought Judges ought not to mix in politics.

The clause passed.

The 39th clause passed.

Mr. PALMER moved that the 40th clause, prohibiting women from voting, be struck out, so as to leave the matter in the hands of the Local Legislature.

Hon. Mr. DORION assented, and the clause was struck out.

Clauses 41, 42, and 43 were adopted.

Clause 44 was amended at the suggestion of **Mr. BLAIN**, by giving poll-clerks as well as Deputy Returning Officers facilities for voting.

On Clause 45, referring to the voters' oath,

Hon. Mr. DORION proposed an amendment adopting the oath made use of by the Local Legislature of the various provinces, and the clause was held over in order to get the amendment framed.

Clauses 46, 47, 48, and 49, referring respectively to the form of oath where there are no voters lists, the mode of voting, the despatch of the ballot-papers, and the return of unused ballots, were passed without amendment.

Clause 50, making provision for the case of a voter who cannot mark his ballot paper, was passed with a verbal amendment.

Clauses 51 to 54, referring to the mode of taking the vote, were passed without discussion.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT thought the 55th clause should be amended, as under it an elector might vote after some other voter had voted in his name, and both these votes would be recorded.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the legitimate voter should not be deprived of his vote because some individual had voted fraudulently in his name. He considered that the clause under consideration would tend to increase the vigilance of the deputy returning officer.

After some discussion the clause was adopted on a division.

Clauses 56 and 57, referring to rejected ballots and counting of votes, were passed without discussion.

On clause 58, making the decision of the Deputy Returning officer final with regard to objections to ballot papers,

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he thought the Chief Returning officer should have this power.

Hon. Mr. DORION defended the provisions of the clause as it stood, and pointed out that the Deputy Returning officer had the same power at present. This was also the provision of the Ballot Bill of Ontario.

He said he had made this provision because the deputy returning officer counted the votes at the present time, and under the present system of voting the deputy returning officer decided whether a vote should be admitted.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT suggested that the Returning officer might be appealed to in order to set at rest any difficulty without putting a candidate to the expense of a scrutiny.

He suggested that the returning officer should decide the objections raised.

Hon. Mr. DORION said if it was the desire of the House that the clause should be suspended, he had no objection to suspending the clause for that purpose; but he thought the deputy returning officer should have the decisions of the matter.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL agreed with the Minister of Justice in this respect, but he was opposed to placing too much power in the hands of returning officers, and on the whole he was in favour, when exception was taken to a ballot paper, of the final decision being left to the returning officer.

The clause was suspended.

The 59th clause, providing for the enclosure of a statement of the number of votes polled to the Returning officer, was passed without discussion.

Clauses 61 and 62, relating to the making up and declaration of the poll, were also passed without amendment, as were also clauses 63 and 64.

With reference to clause 65,

Hon. Mr. DORION said, in reply to a suggestion of Mr. MacLennan, that he would consider the advisability of allowing the candidates to be present at the investigation which would take place in the event of the ballot box being lost.

The clause then passed.

All the succeeding clauses down to the 71st clause were adopted without amendment.

On the 72nd clause,

Hon. Mr. DORION moved as an amendment that in addition to the penalty therein stated, the official shall be also liable for all other damages occasioned by his malfeasance or contravention of this Act.

Upon clause 74,

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT enquired whether an agent would not be permitted to tell his own candidate whether or not a vote had polled.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it was with a view to preventing any influence being used on the voters.

The clause was carried.

Clause 75 was carried, after certain explanations as to the Acts which would subject a candidate to have votes struck off his record.

Upon clause 76,

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD contended that impersonation should be made a misdemeanour.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the difficulty was to get a person to complain against a man who had been guilty of personating. Under this Bill, the Judge who was trying an election case, if he found that a person was guilty of impersonating, could summon the man before him and fine him without any information being laid.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that if the offence was only to be punishable by a fine, they would have persons clubbing together and then paying the penalty.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that he was willing to make the offense a misdemeanour if the House thought that desirable. He moved an amendment to the clause rendering the offense punishable by imprisonment as well as by fine; and the clause, as thus amended, passed.

Clause 76, relating to impersonation and its punishment, was adopted, it being provided that the punishment should be a fine of $200 or six months' imprisonment.

Clause 77 was passed.

The 78th clause was amended by providing that a corrupt act by an agent shall not render a candidate ineligible, unless such act shall have been done by the agent with the consent of the candidate.

All the following clauses down to the 89th inclusive were adopted without amendment.

Upon the 90th clause,

Mr. COLBY suggested that the latter portion of it, allowing a candidate to furnish entertainment to electors at his residence, should be struck out.

Hon. Mr. DORION said this and several other preceding clauses had been copied out of existing Canadian Acts. He was quite willing to strike out the portion of the clause referred to.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD instanced the case of a farmer assembling a number of persons at his house when there was no inn near, to confer with him as a Committee with regard to his election. Such an assembly would be a meeting of electors and if the portion of the clause under discussion were struck out, the candidate would not be able to give these men their dinner, and they might not be able to get it elsewhere in the neighbourhood.

After some further discussion,

Hon. Mr. DORION agreed to let the clause stand as it was.

The clause then passed.

Upon the suggestion of **Mr. HARVEY**, the next clause was amended.

All the following clauses, down to 96 inclusive, were passed without important amendment.

Clause 97 was allowed to stand.

Clauses 98 to 137 inclusive passed with verbal amendments.

A section was added to the clause repealing any former Acts requiring a real estate qualification for candidates for the House of Commons, and providing that no such qualification be required in the future.

The various schedules attached to the Bill were then passed with verbal amendments, **Hon. Mr. DORION** promising to adopt a suggestion for the addition of an oath by an elector whose vote is a duplicate vote that he did not know of and had not connived in the original personation.

The Committee rose and reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 12.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 29, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

CARIBOO ELECTION

The SPEAKER announced to the House that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery had received the certificate of the election of Mr. Joshua Spencer Thompson for the electoral district of Cariboo.

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PETITIONS PRESENTED

A number of petitions were presented asking for protection to native manufacturers and agricultural interests, also for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. MOSS presented the petition of the Dominion Board of Trade, praying for the abolition of excise duties upon petroleum.

Mr. CURRIER presented a petition against Mr. Mills' bill regarding the obstructions in navigable rivers; and against the sugar duty, tea duty and impost on ship-building materials.

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YALE ELECTION

The SPEAKER intimated that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery was in attendance with the returns and other papers relating to the last election for the electoral district of Yale.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE made the usual formal motion for the reading of papers, in the order of their being printed on the orders of the day.

The motion was carried.

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REPORT PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the first report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce reporting a number of bills.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved the reception of the petition of Constant Bougler of Montreal and its reference to the Committee on Immigration and Colonization.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:-

By **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**—To amend the Act respecting Insurance Companies.

By **Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)**—To amend the several Acts relating to the charter of the Ontario Bank.

By **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**—Declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, within the meaning of the 92nd section of the British North America Act.

By **Mr. JETTÉ**—To incorporate the Montreal Steam Ferry Company.

By **Mr. MOSS**—An Act suppressing gaming houses and punishing the keepers thereof.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table a supplementary return respecting the proclamation of 1869 and the Northwest difficulties; also plans and specifications for St. Peter's Canal, Cape Breton Island.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) presented a return of correspondence in reference to the precedence of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

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OYSTER FISHERIES

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE enquired whether it was the intention of the government to carry out the plan proposed in the report of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries of 1872, for restricting our exhausted oyster fisheries, by setting apart the oyster beds in New Brunswick and Quebec for three years.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said Government recognized the importance of the subject, but at present no decision had been arrived at in regard to it. It was under the consideration of the Government at present.

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MAIL STEAMERS ON LAKE HURON

Mr. GILLIES asked whether it was the intention of the Government to make it a condition in the mail contract of the line of steamers that will carry the mail between Sarnia and Lake Superior to call at and make mail ports of Kincardine, Port Elgin, and Southampton, on the east coast of Lake Huron.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) replied but not a word of the hon. gentleman's remarks was audible in the reporters' gallery.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY CONTRACTS

Mr. FISET asked whether the contractors for sections 8, 13, 17, 18 and 19 of the Intercolonial Railway had filed accounts for extra work, and if so, what was the amount claimed by each contractor.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that many of the accounts had been filed, but it would be quite impossible for him, in answer to the question, to make a statement in reference to these accounts. It would be better if his hon. friend moved for a return, in which case he would have the papers prepared.

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THE MIRAMICHI RIVER

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked whether it was the intention of the Government to employ the new dredge, for which engagements were made by the late government, in deepening Horseshoe Bay in the Miramichi River in pursuance of the promise made by the late Government for that purpose.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the question implied something which he did not know to be established. He was not aware of any promise that the late Government made, but he might say that the dredge power in the possession of the Government was not sufficient to accomplish all the work which it was desirable to accomplish, and as soon as the new dredge came from England all the dredge power the Government had would be employed, first in the harbour that seemed to be of the greatest commercial importance, and afterwards in the minor ones.

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DUTCH STANDARD

Mr. STEPHENSON asked whether the customs or any department or officer of the Customs Department was provided with Dutch Standards prior to the new tariff, or if such Dutch Standards had since been procured, and if so, when.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) said No. 9 Dutch standard had been supplied to all the departments, and steps had been taken to supply the other numbers.

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NOVA SCOTIA HARBOURS

Mr. CHURCH asked whether it was the intention of the Government to take measures to deepen the harbours of Lunenburg and Mahone Bay, in the County of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, this year, in accordance with the report of the engineer, and, if not this year, when would a dredge be ordered to perform such work.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the dredging in Mahone Bay could only be done by a dredge of greater power than any the Government had in their possession. That was one of the places that would have to be dredged, probably by the new dredge when it came from England. The contract with the builder in England required that this dredge should be furnished in the month of August and it might be out in time to do that and other work this fall. They were not quite certain on this point, however.

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PICTOU RIVER IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. CARMICHAEL asked if the Government intended making any appropriation, or taking any measure for improving the navigation of the East River of Pictou, between South Pictou loading wharves and New Glasgow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the same reply must be made to the question as was made to the hon. member for Lunenburg (Mr. Church) and Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell). The Government recognized the importance of improving the navigation in the vicinity of Pictou, which was probably one of the greatest shipping ports in the Dominion for the iron and coal deposits there. It was the intention of the Government to have an examination of the river made, with the view of making such improvements as might be considered necessary and desirable.

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POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS

Mr. TROW asked whether it was the intention of the Government to abolish postage upon newspapers delivered in the county of publication.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said it was not the intention of the Government to take any steps in the matter at present.

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WELLAND CANAL SOLICITORSHIP

Mr. PLUMB asked whether the solicitor of the Welland Canal resigned his office prior to the late election; whether, if he resigned, he had been re-appointed; and whether, if not re-appointed, he was conducting the business of the said office, and what were its estimated emoluments for the past and current years.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the solicitor of the Welland Canal did not resign, so he had not, of course, been re-appointed. He was conducting the business of the said office, and he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had no means of estimating the emoluments of the office for the past or the current year.

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ADDRESS DEFERRED

Mr. COSTIGAN stated that he had intended to move for an address to Her Majesty on the subject of the law respecting Common Schools, adopted by the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in 1871, and praying for the passing of an Act making certain amendments to the British North America Act, 1867, but several members, who had temporarily left Ottawa, had requested him to defer the motion for a few days.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. De COSMOS moved for the report of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for British Columbia for 1873, and copies of all papers, including a statement of expenditure and correspondence connected with the Indian affairs of the said Province for 1873. He said that in the report of the Minister of the Interior very little information was given on the subject. He observed that a very small amount of money had been expended among the Indian population in British Columbia, while a very large amount had been expended in the Northwest Territories. He did not wish a large amount of money to be spent anywhere, as economy ought to be the order of the day, but the Indian tribes of British Columbia thought they were treated unfairly.

He moved also for a return showing who recommended the appointment of Mr. Lenihan to the office of Assistant Indian Commissioner in the said Province and why and where he was appointed, and whether he had any experience in the management of Indian affairs before his appointment, and what salary and allowances have been granted him.

He was opposed to the sending of men to British Columbia to fill offices when they had men in the Province better able to discharge the duties.

The motion was carried.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. De COSMOS moved that a respectful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that a return be laid before this House respecting the Province of British Columbia, showing the debt and revenue of the province for the year commencing on July 20, 1871, and ending June 30, 1872; also a return for the year commencing July 1, 1872, and ending June 30, 1873, and also an approximate return for the half year commencing July 1, 1873, and ending December 31, 1873. He asked for a return showing:

1. The public debt taken over or payable by the Dominion for each year respectively.

2. The interest on such public debt.

3. The sinking fund on the same.

4. The respective subsidy paid to the Province.

5. The total revenue collected, showing the sources.

6. The total sum voted, showing the respective votes, whether in the annual estimates or provided by statute.

7. The total amount expended, showing the expenditure under each departmental head.

8. The total amount voted, but not expended, under each departmental head.

9. The total amount expended in excess of votes, showing excess over the respective votes under each departmental head.

10 The total amount expended less than the votes under each departmental head.

11. The total amount expended by each Department without a Parliamentary vote.

12. Whether the amount expended was less than the total revenue collected in the Province, and if so, how much.

13. Whether the total amount expended was more than the receipts, and how much.

14. Total value of imports.

15. Total value of exports.

16. Estimated actual population.

17. Rate per head of imports for home consumption.

18. The rate per head of imports of Canadian produce and manufacture.

19. The rate per head of export of Provincial produce or manufacture.

20. The rate per head of exports of foreign merchandise.

21. The rate per head of taxes derived and interest paid to the Dominion.

22. The amount expended for the Canadian Pacific Railway, under a distinct head.

He believed that in future it would be found that the Dominion of Canada had secured a very fine bargain in obtaining British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT promised to bring down all possible information which he could afford.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved the adoption of the second report of the select committee on the petitions for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

He expressed his regret at the retirement of **Mr. BODWELL** from Parliament.

He urged that, as was set forth in the report, the feeling in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law was widespread. Indeed last year the petitions were signed by 30,000 people, as well as by the heads of corporations representing 160,895 individuals. This year, up to Saturday last, the petitions on this behalf had contained 77,252 signatures, and those from corporations had represented 362,135 people. There had also been a petition unanimously signed by the Legislature of New Brunswick.

It had been said that these petitions were signed by minors, but he held that the fact of these parties desiring the protection of the law gave additional weight to the prayer of the petitioners. It had been said that the passage of a prohibitory law would make a

radical change, but he contended that other changes just as radical had been effected without petitions of the people; among those were the introduction of the ballot, et cetera.

He gave a number of statistics to show that drinking and crime were on the increase. During the last few years crime had increased in Canada 20 1/2 per cent, whilst the increase in population had only been 4.82 per cent. The commitments to jail had averaged 33 1/2 per cent, and those for drunkenness 41 1/2 per cent. He gave statements collected from the principal cities of the Dominion in proof of the increase of liquor traffic, which was now so alarming as to necessitate immediate intervention. In Toronto in 1871, the number of arrests had been 4,787, of which 2,321 were "drunk and disorderlies"; in 1873, 5,654, of which 2,952 were "drunk and disorderlies", being an increase of 19 per cent; and it appeared that, according to the calculation made by the recorder, nine-tenths of the cases of crime which came before him were caused by drunkenness. It was estimated by one of the Clerks of the Court at three-quarters, and by the Assistant Clerk at seven-eighths. During the last three years arrests had increased 15 per cent, whilst those of drunkards had risen 23 1/4 per cent. The Chief of Police of that city also attributed the greater part of the crimes to drink, and no wonder, for during the last year no less than thirty-seven new licences had been added to the dreadful list.

He also gave figures from Nova Scotia, from the United States, and from England, which bore out his assertions that intemperance was upon the increase. On this account it became necessary, if not to adopt a prohibitory liquor law, then to adopt some law which would tend to roll back the huge tide of intemperance and restore to Canada that good name which, unfortunately, she had lost. Crime was the legitimate offspring of the liquor traffic. Was it only tolerated because it was impossible to get rid of it?

He instanced the restrictions which were placed upon the trade as proof that the Government did not recognize it as a legitimate trade, or they would, instead of restricting it, do their utmost to foster it. The liquor traffic was a blow at the industrial capacity of Canada, and thus a blow at the revenue of the country, and a decided blow at the foundation of our national wealth, which instead of being depleted by the passage of a prohibitory law, would be most largely increased.

He quoted from a statement submitted to the English House of Commons, which held that the liquor traffic decreased industrial power by at least one-sixth, and, citing Hoyle, he showed that pauperism was in about the same proportion as the decrease in labour power. Assuming that the loss of labour power in Canada was only one-tenth out of a million working population, we lost the labour annually of one hundred thousand individuals. What would not the Minister of Agriculture give for an annual increase to the country of the industrial energies of a hundred thousand men, each of whom, at the lowest calculation, was worth a thousand dollars to the country? A calculation had been made that we used twenty-five million dollars worth of liquor annually, to distribute which only about fourteen thousand people were employed, whilst industries of an equal amount would supply work for six or seven times that number of men, while the collection of the revenue on liquor cost far more than the receipts.

The revenue derived from liquors, inclusive of the cost of justice, the loss of industrial power, and the loss of life, which was at least one in a thousand, cost the country upwards of $6 for every $5 collected from this source. He contended that the sacrifices made for the revenue from liquor were far too great, and he hoped that when the question came up from a revenue standpoint, the House would place at their proper value the lives and happiness of our people; and, when the question came up in its entirety, he hoped that the moral weal and the education of our people would be held at far more value than the pecuniary loss, if any, and he denied that there was a loss which might accrue from total prohibition. Mr. Ross sat down amid cheers from all sides of the House at his eloquent and effective speech.

Mr. FARROW said the House was greatly indebted to the hon. gentleman who had just taken his seat for the able speech he had made upon this subject. He desired to test the sense of the House upon this matter, and therefore would move the following amendment:—

That the traffic in intoxicating liquors is an evil for which the laws of the country provide no adequate remedy, and that it is desirable to prohibit the importation and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in the Dominion except for medical and manufacturing purposes.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) also maintained that the motion was out of order, as a question affecting the revenue could not be brought before the House in this way.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was personally in favour of the principle laid down in the amendment, but, as it was one not merely affecting the revenue of the country, but also proposing to change the system of raising it, it was clearly out of order. Such a resolution must arise in Committee of the Whole.

He would vote against the motion of the hon. member for Huron North (Mr. Farrow) under present circumstances, even if it were not out of order, because it was calculated to drive the House to a decision which might be adverse to the principle affirmed before the necessary information regarding the effect of prohibitory legislation in other countries had been laid before it; yet he would not hold himself open to the charge of opposing the intention of the hon. member. He thought it would be unfortunate to have the time of the House wasted in a discussion which would have no effect here or in the country.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON held that the motion was clearly out of order, and could only originate with the Government.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER requested Mr. Speaker to consider for some time before giving his decision upon that point. He desired to know, if it was impossible for a motion of this kind to originate except in the Executive, how an expression of opinion upon the large number of petitions in favour of the law could be given by the House.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said the motion was out of order, and contended that there were various models of testing the feeling of the House on the subject, without invading the rules of Parliament.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE referred to a decision recorded in *Hansard* and which was made in 1842. It was then ruled that the House must resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole before it could consider any motion having reference to trade or taxation.

The SPEAKER on being called upon for his ruling by **Mr. BUNSTER**, said in his opinion the amendment was an abstract motion barren of result, and therefore it might be entertained.

Mr. FARROW said, as it appeared to be the opinion of the friends of temperance in the House that it would be in the cause of temperance to withdraw it, he begged to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. BUNSTER then moved in amendment that the report be read six months from this day. He contended that no one had a right to dictate to him what he should eat or drink, and that the liquor traffic gave an impulse to trade and employment to large numbers of people.

The SPEAKER pointed out that the amendment could not be put in its present shape. The report had been read, and the question was now on its adoption.

Mr. BUNSTER altered his amendment accordingly.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) said he hoped the hon. member for Vancouver (Mr. Bunster) would withdraw his motion, as the report recommended the getting of more information with regard to the matter. He (Mr. MacKenzie) was opposed to a prohibitory law as much as the hon. gentleman, though on different grounds.

Mr. BUNSTER refused to withdraw his motion.

Mr. SINCLAIR believed it would promote the peace and prosperity of the country to do away with intoxicating liquors as a beverage. He had no fear with regard to the revenue if they had a prohibitory law, but thought they should in this, as in other matter, consider what was right and then do it. (*Applause*.)

The amendment of Mr. Bunster was then put and lost on a division.

Mr. GORDON thought the country would feel grateful to the Premier for the views he had expressed today with regard to this matter. He (Mr. Gordon) went on to express himself in favour of prohibition.

Mr. CHISHOLM said that he regarded the admission the Premier had made today as one of the greatest things for temperance that had ever occurred in the country. They all agreed as to the advisability of getting rid of crime. As to whether they could do this by passing a prohibitory law there was a difference of opinion. He believed himself that if they had such a law crime would be greatly decreased. At any rate they should be willing to get more information on the subject. He thought that hon. members of this House should set an example to the country by themselves abstaining from the use of intoxicating liquors.

Mr. SMITH (Peel) believed that if it could be shown that the revenue would not be affected by the passage of a prohibitory law, this House would be in favour of it. He thought that they were as much called upon to fight intemperance as to establish a military college to train men for the defence of the country from other enemies.

Mr. WILKES said he was sure a large number of members were much indebted to the member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross) for the pains he had taken in this matter. It would be wise not to precipitate action in this matter. The financial aspect of this question was undoubtedly an embarrassing one, but the revenue now derived from this traffic could be easily derived in other ways. The revenue derived from this source in Canada was 30 per cent of the total revenue, in England 33 per cent, in the United States about the same. He called the attention of the First Minister to the fact that there was a large liquor traffic being carried on with Indians in the Northwest. They were being supplied with liquor by Canadian traders, and not from across the border as heretofore.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had taken very peremptory steps to stop that.

Mr. WILKES was very happy to hear it. He hoped when the information asked for by the Committee was disseminated among the people, good results would ensue. It was a mistake to imagine that the hotel system of the country would be injured by such legislation. It was the tavern system which was objected to. They did not desire crude legislation in advance of public sentiment, but hoped they would see that it was their interest to restrain the traffic.

It being six o'clock, Mr. Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Bills were passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed:

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Canadian and Great Northern Telegraph Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines—**Hon. Mr. HOLTON**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines.—**Hon. Mr. HOLTON**.

An Act to consolidate the mortgages and other preferential charges of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada; for raising further capital; for establishing a Superannuation and Provident Fund Association; and for other purposes, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines —**Mr. IRVING**.

An Act to incorporate the Niagara Grand Island Bridge Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways and Canals.—**Mr. THOMSON (Welland)**.

The following Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to incorporate the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Co.—**Mr. HALL**.

An Act to incorporate the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway Company—**Mr. MOSS**.

An act to incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Co.—**Mr. MOSS**.

An Act to incorporate the St. Croix Printing and Publishing Company—**Mr. PALMER**.

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CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

The Bill of **Mr. CHARLTON** to prevent cruelty to animals, while in transit by railway or other means of conveyance within the Dominion of Canada, was read a second time.

* * *

DEMANDS AGAINST VESSELS

Mr. KIRKPATRICK moved the second reading of his bill to facilitate the recovery of claims against vessels. He contended that on the question of jurisdiction, this House had full power, by the provision of the British North America Act, to legislate on questions appertaining to navigation.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he hoped the hon. gentleman would allow the Bill to stand, as the Government had the matter under consideration.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that the Government intended asking the Admiralty Court to extend its jurisdiction to Ontario.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK agreed to let the Bill stand.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The House went into Committee on the resolution of the **Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County)** with respect to Prince Edward Island. The resolution continued an Act passed last session for the retention of certain goods in bond. The resolutions were passed in Committee, and the Committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) then introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time.

* * *

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER moved the second reading of his Bill to make better provision for the trial of controverted election of members of the House of Commons and respecting matters connected therewith. He said that the judges would treat these cases as ordinary cases and receive no more salary than they do now. If it were thought the trial of these would entail much extra work on them they might consider the propriety of giving them greater salaries than they now receive, but he thought election petitions this year were not unusually numerous. There had only been 65 of them filed, and 65 extra cases in four years would add very little to the work the judges now did.

He believed that the provision disqualifying for a certain number of years the defeated as well as the successful candidate, when found guilty of corruption, would have a very good effect in causing candidates to comply strictly with the law.

The Bill was read a second time.

* * *

PILOTAGE ACT

The House went into Committee, **Mr. APPLEBY** in the chair, on the resolutions of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)** for the purpose of amending the Pilotage Act of 1873.

The resolutions were adopted, and the Committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) then introduced a Bill founded on the resolutions, which was read a first time.

* * *

PENSIONS TO SOLDIERS

Mr. BROUSE called the attention of the Government to a proclamation with reference to pensions to soldiers which Her Majesty had issued on February 21, 1874, and which he read to the House as follows:—"Whereas it is represented to us that men who have served in our wars in and prior to the year 1815 are often living without any settled or sufficient means of support, and that by reason of wounds or infirmity they are unable to earn anything towards their support, our will and pleasure is that our Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital shall have power, as and if they shall see fit, to award a pension or an increased pension to such persons as aforesaid, provided the pension shall not, in total amount awarded, exceed for each man the sum of 1 shilling and sixpence per day."

He said that his object in referring to this proclamation was to learn whether it was only intended to apply to soldiers of the regular line, or whether it was intended that those who served in Canada at the time stated should enjoy the same advantage. It might be intended that those who served in Canada at the time stated should enjoy the same advantages. It might be intended to apply only to the soldiers of the line, but he believed, if the Dominion Government called the attention of the Imperial Government to the fact that there were many soldiers living in Canada who, in 1815, took part in the defence of the country, and did good service on behalf of our noble flag—(*Hear, hear*)—the Home Government would extend the grant so as to include them.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government were not possessed of any certain information on the subject but if any of the persons supposed to be included in the warrant referred to by his hon. friend should make application to the government, they would take care that that application was presented—(*Hear, hear*)—and a decision obtained upon the subject immediately. He did not know at the moment whether the Government could adopt any other mode

of obtaining immediate information, but he could only say that they would be willing to do anything in their power to meet the view of the class to which his hon. friend referred.

The matter was then dropped.

* * *

SUPPLY

The House went into Committee of Supply.

The item of $15,000 for Miscellaneous Works on Canals was passed, as also the item of $449,125 for Public Buildings at Ottawa. As to the grounds, $75,000.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE explained that it was proposed to extend the western block in the direction of the buildings recently destroyed by fire, in order to provide sufficient accommodation for the offices of the Departments. The Government had also determined to build double partition walls, with iron doors, in order to prevent the extension of a fire, if such should take place.

In reference to the improvement of the grounds in front of the Parliament Buildings, he said he had little information to give.

Mr. Marshall Wood, a sculptor from England, seemed to be entrusted with the progress and planning of the works; but he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had not seen Mr. Wood since he came into office, and believed he was not now in the country. He had not been able to find out what were Mr. Wood's instructions or what the exact nature of his duties, which seemed to him to be that of architect or landscape gardener. He added that a claim for $1,500 had been made upon the government by a New York architect for a plan furnished for laying out these grounds.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) then introduced the subject of the want of accommodation in the Commons Chamber, suggesting, as had been done last year, that the library be taken as the Commons Chamber, for which he believed it was admirably suited.

The item was then carried.

Items $50,000 for a bridge over the Red River at Fort Garry, and $67,500 for Lake Superior and Red River route construction, were passed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this last was intimately connected with the Dawson route, but he hoped materially to reduce the amount, the Government now having contracts under consideration for the general work of the Dawson route.

In the course of speaking to the different items,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was necessary to curtail as much as possible the public expenditure.

The following items passed:—For the improvement of rivers, $90,500; roads and bridges (Lake Superior and Red River route), $196,500.

On the item of $1,035,100 for Public buildings the following items were adopted; public buildings, Ontario $295,800; public buildings, Quebec $321,100; public buildings, New Brunswick, $94,000; public buildings, Nova Scotia, $58,000; public buildings, Manitoba, $103,200; public buildings, British Columbia, $163,000. For repairs, et cetera, $190,000; for harbours and piers, Ontario, $506,000; harbours and piers, Quebec, $21,800; harbours and piers, New Brunswick, $109,500; harbours and piers, Nova Scotia, $112,500; harbours and piers, Cape Breton, $55,500.

On the item of $1,035,100 for Public Buildings,

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) asked what the additional vote for the Hamilton Post Office was for.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was for a large sorting room in the rear.

Mr. WILKES asked if the Government intended to acquire any land at the rear of the Toronto Custom House.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had taken a great deal of trouble to find more land than was to be obtained at the present site. They had determined to build on the land to the rear of the Custom House.

In answer to Mr. Smith (Selkirk),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government did intend to proceed with the Manitoba Custom House and Post Office this year.

In answer to Hon. Mr. Mitchell,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the contracts for the Ottawa Post Office and Custom House were being let.

Mr. PATERSON asked if there were any hopes of the creation of some new buildings in Brantford.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government would meet the public accommodation so far as required, and he did not think it would be wise or right to hold out hopes that buildings would be erected simply to meet the wishes of any particular locality.

Mr. DAVIES said he did not see anything in the estimates for Prince Edward Island. It was rumoured that the late Government had promised to erect ten lighthouses on the coast of the Island. These lighthouses were not of much importance to the inhabitants of the Island but as the Island lay well in the channel of the St. Lawrence, they were of importance to the public generally. He thought at least five or six lighthouses were absolutely necessary.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government intended to carry out whatever might be necessary in the interest of the public in this direction. It was true that an Order in Council had been passed for ten lighthouses in Prince Edward Island, and it was commendable that the late Government had shown so much industry as they had during the last week in October in passing not only this, but so many Orders in Council of a similar character, when they had so much other matter to occupy their attention. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) It so happened that there was nothing to require immediate expenditure on public buildings on that Island, but the Government would carry out all requisite works.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he thought only eight or nine lighthouses were put down in the Order in Council, but if the number was ten there was not one that was not required.

Mr. SCHULTZ said that he saw there was no re-vote for a Government House for Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that every Province had to provide its own Government House.

The item was passed, as was also that of $190,000 for rents, repairs, heating, et cetera.

On the item of $805,300 for harbours and piers,

Mr. LANDERKIN said he was informed that a tender for the work in Goderich harbour had been accepted which was considerably above the lowest tender received. If the statement were not true he would like to hear it contradicted.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the statement was not true. The lowest tender was received from Mr. Neilson, of Belleville, but he had failed in a former contract, and in accordance with a rule of the Department, the Government would not let him have this contract. The contract was given to a Mr. Eillis of Toronto, but for some reason he gave it up, and the present contractor having made the lowest tender and given security, the work was given to him.

Mr. BOWELL asked how it was there was a vote of $20,500 in the estimates for Port Hope harbour. He thought that harbour belonged to a private Company.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the tolls received from the harbour were only sufficient to pay the interest on the money the Company owed the Government, and as the harbour was one of refuge, the Government thought it should be kept in a good state. This $20,500 was to be expended in constructing a pier farther out in the lake than the present one. There was also to be an expenditure on Cobourg Harbour, in carrying out a former engagement. As there was a railway from inland running to Cobourg, as well as one to Port Hope, and there was consequently a probability of a great deal of shipping coming to both ports, it was thought desirable that they should both be kept in good order.

Mr. WALKER pointed out that Port Stanley Harbour was a very important one, having a railway connected with it and being the port of the city of London, and expressed the hope that the Government would see the propriety of increasing the sum of $7,000 set down for it in the main estimates.

Mr. CASEY also thought the sum should be increased. A very moderate addition to the sum set down in the estimates would be of vital consequence with reference to the improvement of the harbour.

Mr. YOUNG held that the internal ridings had a just claim for recompense for the heavy taxes they had to pay on that head.

After some discussion the item was carried.

The items of $56,300 for slides and booms and $256,800 for miscellaneous purposes were carried without discussion, as also were the following:—Maintenance of steamers *Napoleon III*, *David*, *Lady Head* and *Sir James Douglas*, $96,000; mail subsidies to a main line between Halifax and Cork $39,541; steamer communication between Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, $10,000; ditto between Halifax and St. John via Yarmouth, $10,000; ditto on Lakes Superior and Huron, $12,500; ditto from St. John, New Brunswick, to ports in the Basin of Minas, $4,000; ditto between San Francisco and Victoria, British Columbia, $54,000; tug service between Montreal and Kingston, $12,000, and from Richibucto, $4,500; and from Trinity House, Quebec, $8,222. The other items, miscellaneous in character, under the heading of Tug Service, and amounting to $23,100 were also passed.

Life-boat, life preservers et cetera, $6,000; Investigation into wrecks, casualties, et cetera, $2,500; Registers and classification of shipping, $6,000; Salaries—Secretaries of Pilotage Commissioners at St. John, New Brunswick, and Halifax, $1,600.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated that it was the intention of the Government to merge the duties of the Trinity Board into the Harbour Commission.

The Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 1.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 30, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

CLOSED SESSION

The House sat until 3.50 p.m. in closed session.

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PETITIONS

A number of petitions praying for a prohibitory liquor law were presented.

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EXPORT DUTY ON SAW LOGS

Mr. CHARLTON presented the report of the Committee on the export duty on saw logs, etc., as follows: That the export duty upon logs, shingle bolts, and stave bolts, imposed under Schedule F of the Tariff Act of 1868, Cap. 44, of 31 Vic., is a tax upon settlers and owners of timber, who are prevented by its operation from selling in the best market.

That the export duty, while reducing the market value of logs and bolts for the benefit of mill owners, does not promote the manufacture of lumber, shingles and staves at the principal Lake Erie ports, and at many other ports in Canada.

That a large proportion of the export of pine and oak logs is long timber, entering into the same class of consumption as does the square pine and square oak export of Canada.

That exporters of round pine and oak from Lake Erie ports compete in the American markets with the Michigan timber dealers, to whom the Canadian export duty affords a considerable protection.

That since the imposition of export duty, a large amount of capital embarked in the round timber trade has been withdrawn from Canada and invested in Michigan.

That the saw-mill interest of Canada has, in the opinion of your Committee, been but slightly benefited by the export duty, and that whatever benefit the export duty has conferred upon the saw-mill interest has been given at the direct expense of settlers and owners of timber.

That the export duty, reduced to an *ad valorem* rate, would be on the average 40 per cent on stave bolts, 30 per cent on oak logs, 20 per cent on pine logs, 25 per cent on spruce logs, and 25 per cent on shingle bolts.

That the export duty is an extreme protective measure and partially, at least, inoperative as such, and that the burdens imposed by it are unequally distributed, falling as they do entirely upon settlers and other owners of timber.

Mr. CURRIER called attention to the fact that the Committee were not unanimous in making that report, several of them dissenting.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA TARIFF

Mr. BUNSTER presented the report of the Committee on the British Columbia tariff.

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RETURN

Hon. Mr. LAIRD presented a return of copies of correspondence relating to the disposal of barracks property in the town of Chatham.

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ESCHEATS AND FORFEITURES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the return demanded by the House for a copy of the Act on escheats and forfeitures passed by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario.

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ONTARIO SAVINGS SOCIETY

Mr. WALKER introduced a bill to extend the powers of the Ontario Savings and Investment Society.

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CREDITORS OF RAILWAYS

Mr. McDONNELL introduced a bill to facilitate arrangements between Railway Companies and their creditors.

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TRINITY HOUSE OF MONTREAL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE introduced a bill to amend the Act relating to the Trinity House and Harbour Commission of Montreal.

* * *

BANK AMENDMENT BILLS

Mr. LAFLAMME moved for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Act respecting Banks and Banking in regard to the liability of shareholders. He explained that it was to do away with the double liability provision.

Some little discussion took place as to the advisability of the measure.

Mr. WILKES raised, as a point of order, that it was a class of measure which could only emanate from the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER concurred with Mr. Wilkes.

Mr. LAFLAMME withdrew the measure.

Mr. LAFLAMME moved for leave to introduce a bill regarding Banks, enabling them to divide their capital into shares of $100 each.

The bill was withdrawn for the same reason as the previous bill.

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INSPECTION AMENDMENT BILL

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER moved that the House go into Committee on Friday (this week) to consider that it is expedient to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 49, entitled, "An Act to amend and consolidate and to extend to the whole Dominion of Canada the laws respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce," and to incorporate the amendments of one Act with the remaining provisions of the Act amended.—Carried.

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NOVA SCOTIA SUBSIDY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the House go into Committee on Friday to consider the resolution declaring it to be the intention of Act 36 Vic., Cap. 30, that the increased subsidy to be allowed to the Province of Nova Scotia under the said Act should be based upon the said sum of $9,186,756, as if that sum had been mentioned in the 114th section of the British North America Act, 1867, instead of the said sum of $8,000,000.—Carried.

* * *

LICENCES FOR WINE COMPOUNDERS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the House go into Committee on Friday to consider resolutions providing that all persons carrying on the business of compounding or mixing wine, brandy, or other articles containing alcohol and suitable for use as a beverage shall be required to take out a licence for carrying on such business, et cetera, et cetera.

* * *

THE TARIFF

On the order for the House to go into Committee of Ways and Means,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT rose to move that the Speaker do now leave the chair. He said that in resuming this discussion it would probably be advisable to refer to the criticisms that had been levelled at the statement which he had made a week ago. It could excite no surprise that that statement should be very violently assailed. He had stated the facts as far as he knew them, and they had involved a very severe censure upon the gentleman who had preceded the present Government. It was, therefore, only natural that that statement should be criticised.

There were only two points upon which the statement could be said to depend. These were his assertions that the revenue to be expected under our old tariff of 1873-1874 could not reasonably be presumed to exceed the sum of $22,00,000, and the statement that the Government were obliged, in order to fulfil the engagements made by their predecessors, to bring down the estimates of $24,000,000 for the year 1874-1875. His objection to bringing down statements to the 20th April was that it would be of no use for the purpose of honest comparison, as it was utterly vitiated by the fact that everyone who had goods in bond would be desirous of removing them as soon as they observed the statement in the Speech from the Throne, and that they would be still more desirous when they saw the new tariff on the 15th April. The statement asked for would only have confused the minds of hon. members, because after hearing it they would have to go back to the statement of 1873 to get at the normal condition of things. Up to the lst of April the comparisons were tolerably fair.

He contended, notwithstanding the statements of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), that there was no ground for expecting a larger revenue for 1873-1874 than he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had predicted in his financial statement, that is that the revenue for that period could not be expected to exceed in gross $22,000,000. The argument which the hon. member used was not that it would exceed this estimate, but that it would exceed the revenue of 1872-1873. Now, that revenue amounted to $20,800,000. No one disputed that the revenue for 1873-1874 was likely to exceed that for 1872-1873, but that had nothing to do with the matter. His (Hon. Mr. Cartwright's) argument was that the revenue for this year would not, under the old tariff, exceed $22,000,000. That argument the hon. member for Cumberland laboured to meet by the counterargument that it would exceed that of 1872-1873.

He (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) said that our imports were comparatively declining, not largely, to be sure, but nevertheless declining. To this again the hon. member replied by stating that they were greater during the present year than they were last. This was a point upon which he agreed with the hon. member. Our imports, in the gross, were greater, but this did not affect the question of their proportionate decline.

Another statement of his to which the hon. member took exception was that 1873-1874 was not to be considered a very prosperous year. According to all the evidence he could procure—and he had been at pains to consult men whose opinions would be received with respect by the House—he considered he was justified in saying that the year was not prosperous. However, the hon. gentleman was at liberty to think otherwise if he liked, but it was against his own argument; the statement militated not against his (Hon. Mr. Cartwright's) argument. If the statement was correct, that our imports had relatively declined, the argument was all the

stronger. That they had relatively declined he was prepared to assert. The returns up to April showed that for nine months the receipts were exactly $16,093,000. He would like to know, if these nine months, which were the only nine months that could be used for fair comparison, gave only this amount, what sum would they be likely to receive in twelve?

Let the hon. gentleman work out the sum in proportion as he pleased, and under any possible circumstance he would be unable to show that the receipt of $16,000,000 in nine months was a warrant for receiving any more than $22,000,000 in twelve. The statement of imports told its own tale, and showed that in eight months of this year our imports had suffered an absolute decrease of one million of dollars. As our income was almost all derived from Customs and Excise, he thought there was no just ground for expecting a larger revenue than $22,000,000 for the current year. It was not worthwhile to go into an analysis of the imports for the year 1873-1874. His object, in the meantime, was merely to justify his estimated revenue.

As to the other charge, that he had grossly overestimated the expenditure for 1874-1875, he assured the House that so far from having attempted to swell the amount, he would have been justified on those portions of them which were more especially under his own control in adding $300,000. And moreover he did not make any allusion to the supplementary estimates, but based his arguments upon the original estimates laid fairly before the House. Nor did he say much of the expense likely to accrue from the Intercolonial Railway, or anything on account of the expenditure necessary for the Pacific Railway. He referred in his calculations simply to the sums which were required for the actual expenditure of the current year.

He thought his hon. friends behind him would not charge the Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) with lavishness. He was afraid they were inclined more to blame him for being too much the opposite way. The Government had asked simply for what was necessary in order to meet the engagements entered into by their predecessors. Practically, as he had said in his financial statement, our revenue only amounted to six million and three-fourths dollars, while the Government were unable to reduce their estimate of expenditure in the same way below three million dollars. This deficit was greatly added to by the deficits in the Post Office and Public Works Departments, and altogether the House could have no difficulty in seeing that he was perfectly correct in saying that there were two million and a half dollars, at least, to be provided for by additional taxation, besides expenditure upon capital account.

He had made these remarks because he felt perfectly certain that the returns which today were laid before the House would be used in argument in order to show the House that there was no need of further taxation. The whole tenor of the hon. member's argument, the other night, was to call away public attention to what, he thought, would be the refusal of the Government to give the means of a comparison from the 1st April within which time a very large increase had taken place, upwards of $3,000,000 being paid in within twenty days.

The House would understand the cause of this and anticipate its results when he told them that on the 8th of July, 1873, there were 1,600,000 gallons of spirits in bond in the Dominion and on the 11th of April 1874, there were only 170,000, a reduction of 1,430,000 gallons from the ordinary and normal condition of things. He had not been able to obtain similar proof of the state of things in the Department of Customs, but in the facts alluded to, hon. gentlemen would see how fallacious were the premises upon which the hon. gentleman based his arguments.

What he desired to say emphatically was this, that the tariff proposed by the Government was neither a free trade nor a protective tariff, but a simple revenue tariff. (*Hear, hear.*) Bearing in mind that the necessity was imposed upon them of raising over a sixth of our taxation without disturbing the system, any hon. gentleman would see that it was a matter of necessity that taxation should be extended. Unless we did so there would be an undue pressure upon one particular class, and upon one particular interest. Doubtless many other modes could have been arrived at for raising a revenue. (*Hear, hear.*) Many such modes had been submitted to him within the last few days; but there was not one point of the proposed tariff assailed upon which he could not produce opinions of the most directly opposite character from gentlemen of standing in the mercantile community.

One suggestion he received was that he might raise the revenue wanted by an export duty of 10 per cent upon exported lumber. He had waiting upon him, as might be expected, numerous deputations wanting to have five per cent extra upon almost every imaginable thing. There was one pleasing feature pervading all the deputations, however, and that was that they all thought it was right and proper that the raw material should be admitted free, while the manufactured article should be taxed.

After grave and serious consideration, the Government had concluded that they would require no less a sum than three million of additional taxation, and he believed that to meet the numerous engagements all this sum would be necessary, although he also believed that were this supply granted by the House they would not again be called upon to do a similar thing.

The Government desired to raise one-third of their new revenue from spirits and tobacco, another third upon those articles which are known as within the 15 per cent list; and still another third upon wine and spirits.

He had not in his short tenure of office found time to entirely master this intricate subject, but he had carefully considered the views of the various deputations which had waited upon the Government, and he had now to say that it would be a very small thing indeed, in a Government supported by the people of Canada as this Government had been, to stick to every point of minor detail, and neither the supporters of the Ministry nor the people would consider they did anything but their duty in carefully weighing all the advice and representations made to them on this subject. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) He should have liked, under the circumstances, to have brought down a provisional budget, but the deficit had to be provided for and no alternative was left. The disturbance of trade

which arose from the doubt existing as to the ultimate form which the tariff might take, within the last few weeks, showed what the undesirable results would be of having such doubts existing for any length of time. Upon this account he was anxious to bring down the budget as soon as possible.

As he had said, he had the advantage of hearing a pretty full discussion of all the propositions recommended on this matter, and of weighing pretty carefully all the arguments advanced from various quarters, and he had felt it his duty to advise his colleagues that certain modifications should be consented to. (*Hear, hear.*)

The House would remember that in the first instance he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had proposed certain differential duties upon articles of luxury. The same principle had been adopted in other countries, but he was bound to say that after hearing the deputations which had met him on the subject from all quarters, he became aware that there were more serious difficulties in the way of carrying it into effect than he had conceived. He still thought these difficulties might be overcome, but it would impose a considerable amount of trouble, and would very greatly widen the scope of the resolutions. The Government had therefore decided to modify the tariff upon articles of luxury, so as to make it uniform, and from 5 to 6 per cent higher than it was before. The differential duty would therefore be withdrawn. In this way they expected to increase the receipts from this source by some three or four hundred thousand dollars.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: What duty do you propose to put on tea and shipping materials?

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT: They had decided also to recede considerably the duty upon tea, upon shipping material, and upon iron. He might as well state the extent to which these reductions would be allowed to go. The duty upon tea, in the original resolution, was proposed to be 6 cents upon green tea, and 4 cents upon black. The Government now proposed that it should be 4 cents upon green tea, and 3 cents upon black.

Referring to the proposed changes, he said that in the matter of shipping material, they proposed to dispense with certain duties upon cable, iron masts, a certain class of iron bars which entered into their manufacture, copper in all forms, and sheathing. They proposed to remit the duty upon pig iron and to remit an additional 2 1/2 per cent on the particular class of iron which paid 5 per cent before.

There was another duty upon which they now proposed to make a reduction. They proposed to modify the duty upon wines of the cheaper kind, and upon sparkling wines they proposed a considerable augmentation. In short, they proposed to take substantially the American standard for the first, but to allow a greater degree of alcoholic strength in wine not valued at more than 40 cents; that is to say, wines of 20 degrees of alcoholic strength would be admitted at a duty of 30 cents. He did not believe that these changes would at all diminish the consumption, for the additional duty would barely amount to a penny sterling per bottle on the lower grades.

The returns showed that there was a general false impression as to the quality of the wine imported in bottles, and the information originally afforded to himself led him to suppose they were of a much higher grade than they had turned out to be in fact. With regard to medium-grade wines, he proposed to preserve the English standard of sixty cents per gallon, and a very small additional duty when imported in bottles.

The sparkling wines would be $3 per dozen, as before, and they also proposed that the manufacturers of spurious wines should contribute to the revenue by a duty upon the material used in the adulteration.

Articles of iron which formerly paid 5 per cent would be allowed to remain at that. This comprised the list of reductions.

He might say, however, that there was another subject upon which there was a deal of sharp controversy. That was the duty upon sugar. A strong prima facie case had been made out for the alteration proposed by the Government. He had no doubt that to tax the raw material heavier than the manufactured article was an anomaly which was attended with great practical difficulty, and the Government found, as was well known, that there was a strong feeling of disapprobation with regard to that duty throughout the country. He could not say that he was entirely satisfied with the arguments upon either side. He held that the matter was attended with a great deal of difficulty and in that respect he was only re-echoing the opinions of Mr. Gladstone and other financial authorities in Great Britain.

The two points which came out in controversy and which peculiarly struck him were these:—That there was no great amount of revenue derived from this source, but that there was a risk of considerable injury, if not to the consumer, at least to the Government. Therefore, under these circumstances, and finding that the facts were not all so well established as at first appeared, the Government had decided to defer further action in the matter for the present. They did not mean to say that they were satisfied, but there were practical difficulties of very great magnitude in the way. He desired to be understood that they proposed giving the matter their serious consideration during the recess, and hoped to be able to arrive at some conclusion before the next session.

He pointed out that it must not be supposed we could go much farther increasing indirect taxation. Upon examining our 15 per cent list, it was found that we could not run the risk of putting much further taxation upon it; and in regard to excise we had gone as far as we could go. In re-arranging the tariff under circumstances like the present, it would be utterly unavoidable that some cases of hardship would occur, but he thought they had heard almost every aggrieved interest, and, after examining their grounds of complaint, he thought the modification which the Government proposed would remove them so far as they were fair and just.

He had been charged, since making his financial statement with taking too gloomy a view of our financial position. So far as he knew he had simply done his duty, and placed that position justly and fairly before the House and country. He had been called an undue alarmist, and was charged with taking the worst possible

view of the case; and if those charges were true there would be all the better ground for believing he was right when he said that if this supply were granted to the Government it would be a long time before they would require a similar change. He concluded by moving that the resolutions be referred back to Committee for the purpose of making these proposed modifications. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said no doubt the House would remember that when he felt it his duty, on the occasion of the delivery of the budget speech, to make a few strictures upon the statements contained in that speech, the leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) replied to him (Hon. Mr. Tupper) in terms of very great severity, and, if his arguments were not calculated to appeal to the intelligence of the House, they were certainly made in strong, if not forcible terms.

The leader of the Government stated on that occasion that there was no observation in the speech of the Hon. Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) that called for any such criticism on his (Hon. Mr. Tupper's) part. Never in the history of this Parliament was a speech delivered from the Treasury benches by a Finance Minister of so aggressive a character as that which the hon. gentleman on that occasion delivered, and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would have been false to himself and false to his colleagues in the late Government who were not now in the House, to the Administration of which he had the honour to be a member, and false to the facts, which was more important than all, if he had not promptly shown the fallacies with which the hon. gentleman had endeavoured to mislead the House and the people.

If he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) were disposed to be severe on the hon. gentleman, he would be unequal to the task, after having sat in his place for the past hour and listened to what must have been one of the most painful speeches ever delivered from the Treasury benches, and one of the most painful humiliations any Minister was ever subjected to. The hon. gentleman who had undertaken the conduct of the financial affairs of the country had stated to the House that, upon reconsideration, the policy he had submitted, and had endeavoured to force upon the country, was not only open to the criticism he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had offered, but that the suggestions made were worthy of adoption.

He would at once pass to the consideration of the main points at issue between the hon. gentleman and himself. It would not be necessary for him to deal with the first branch of the question which he had presented to the House a few evenings ago. It would not be necessary for him now to submit the evidence and statistics furnished to the House by the Government itself in proof of the unsoundness of the hon. gentleman's views. There was no reason to suppose that the trade and commercial condition of the country was such as to make it necessary for the Minister of Finance to take the view which, unfortunately for the interests of the country, he had taken with regard to its financial position.

The hon. gentleman had not undertaken to grapple with the arguments he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had submitted to the House a few evenings ago. He did not grapple with the fact that, assuming there was a slight decrease in the total imports of something like a million dollars as compared with the enormous imports of the previous year, the imports did not touch the question of the revenue. That was so far as imports for consumption were concerned, on which revenue depended. The facts were against him. The imports for consumption showed a large increase.

He would pass on to the next question on which the hon. gentleman and himself were at an undoubted issue. In the Speech with which Parliament was opened there was a declaration that there was such a deficiency for the current year in the receipts as compared with the expenditure as would involve the necessity of an application to Parliament to supply means to meet the deficit. The late Government was assailed as being the cause of this increased taxation which the hon. gentleman proposed to impose upon the country.

On this point he was at an undoubted issue with the Finance Minister, and he would take his own outside figures to show that he was millions astray. The Minister of Finance said the estimates for the current year should have been $24,100,000. The estimates were $21,740,000. The increase in revenue for the first nine months of 1873-1874 over 1872-1873 was $1,316,668. This ratio of increase would add $520,181 to the estimate of $21,740,000. Then the surplus from last year, which they had in hand to meet any deficiency in the current year, amounted to $1,638,821, which being added to the former sum, gave a total of no less than $21, 389,900.

The Finance Minister was not justified in applying to Parliament for one dollar of taxation, for, taking his own outside figures, there were only $200,998 to be provided. But there was another item to be brought into account here, and that was the money appropriated for the redemption of debt. They had paid into the sinking fund during the year $481,665; and therefore, taking the hon. gentleman's own showing, they would have a surplus remaining of $280,667. (*Cheers.*)

The Hon. Finance Minister had fallen into one or two grave errors in estimating the financial affairs of the country. In page 32 of the Estimates it would be found that there was a sum of $766,200 which the hon. gentleman declared would require to be re-voted. This was upwards of three-quarters of a million, which, according to the hon. gentleman's showing would be unappropriated up to lst July, 1874.

Then he wished to draw attention to another point. He maintained that the hon. gentleman had made a mistake in the statement of expenditure which had been laid on the table of the House of nearly half a million of dollars. In one item the hon. gentleman startled the House and the country with the declaration he made as to the expenditure and deficit that would exist in regard to the working of the Government railways.

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) might say that he had watched the operations of those works in regard to the receipts they would give the country, the expenditure upon them, and everything connected with them, in the most narrow manner for fifteen years, and he would pledge himself to prove the mistake in the hon. gentleman's figures, as he would bring down a detailed statement showing how

he made up the $1,489,607 charged against the operation of the railways for nine months. The expenditure for the same service in 1873 was only $791,326, although it was well known that, owing to the severity of the winter, the roads had been worked at unusual cost.

He had no hesitation in saying this was a mistake, and he would undertake to show before the Public Accounts Committee that there was $500,000 charged here to account which in all previous years had been charged to capital account. The addition of the sum of $776,200 to $400,000 made a total of $1,166,200 as the sum of unexpended money which would enable the Finance Minister to meet any possible deficiency in any possible demand which might arise before the lst July, 1874. By subtracting these errors from the amount of $24,100,000, the sum remaining would be $22,963,800, which would give him a clear surplus of $7,300,000, or something like $1,000,000. Now he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would take the figures as they stood to prove from the official documents now on the table that there would be an actual surplus to the lst July without reference to the surplus of the preceding year. The returns showed that for the nine months ending 1st April, 1874 the receipts amounted to $16,096,927, while the expenditure for the corresponding period was $15,970,405, leaving a clear surplus in the nine months of $126,522. It might be said that the ratio of the receipts in the next three months might change. They had data, however, to go upon to prove that no adverse change could take place.

Did the hon. gentleman not know that the last three months, from the lst April, were the three months upon which they could best rely for increased receipts? If the same argument were applied to the expenditure, no evidence could be found that the receipts during that period would be disproportionate to or in excess of the income. One of the greatest charges on the revenue was about $4,000,000 for subsidies to provinces, which was already paid for the entire year. This payment had been made in the nine months the hon. gentleman had referred to. The surplus for the first nine months of the year 1872-1873 was $1,517,294, showing that there was an increase of income over expenditure during the last three months of the fiscal year of $121,584. The surplus therefore that the hon. gentleman's own figures showed now existed would be increased instead of diminished. At the end of three months, to the actual surplus now existing to $1,260,022 must be added $400,000, at least, for errors on account of railway expenditure, which would make an actual surplus of $526,522. In the year 1873-1874, the surplus of the past year of $1,638,822 would give $2,165,344 as the surplus in hand on the lst July, 1874, for the two years then ending. If to this were added the sinking fund paid during those two years for redemption of debt, it would show a total surplus in the two years of over $3,000,000, by which the receipts had exceeded the current expenditure for that period. Those papers showed that at that moment the receipts of 1873-1874 were $3,000,000 in excess of what they were on the same day in 1872-1873.

The hon. gentleman had proved that he was deserving of the gravest censure that ever fell on any Finance Minister for the enormous derangement in trade he had caused. Everybody had been alarmed by hearing that unfounded statement in his speech that there was a deficiency, and that Parliament would have to be appealed to for additional taxation. The effect of this was to derange the business of the country to an enormous extent. Had the hon. gentleman taken the right way of obtaining an increased revenue by giving people notice to rush to the custom houses and deposit nearly $300,000 in about twenty days? Such a course was unjust and in every respect improper and unprecedented. The Government were bound to keep any proposed change of tariff as secret as possible.

He proceeded again to allude to the mistake made in regard to the Railway service when "six o'clock" was called, and the House rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS

Hon. Mr. TUPPER resumed his speech, and said he had already stated that he did not intend to found an elaborate argument on the twenty days' return which hon. gentlemen had been kind enough to give them under pressure, but he might simply say that these returns showed that the Government now had on hand three million in excess of the corresponding period of last year. It was not for that purpose that he would for a single moment draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Finance to the return.

He wished to call the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister to one or two items which went far to establish the ground he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had already taken that there was no indication of a falling off in the commercial prosperity of the country. There was no branch which indicated more commercial vigour than the Post Office Department. The receipts for the first nine months and twenty days of the current year exceeded the receipts for the corresponding period of the previous year by $232,897. The increase in the revenue for public works during the same period was $170,086. So they had here two items, the Post Office and the Public Works Departments, which gave an increase of over $400,000 in the nine months. He drew the attention of the House to this point in order to sustain the statement that he had made with regard to the commercial prosperity of the country.

He then proposed to show that which he imagined no person would doubt: that the current three months would give them as much, if not more, than the corresponding three months of last year. The various items to which he had referred, when added together, would give the Finance Minister a surplus on July lst, 1874 of $2,165,344, with which he might anticipate any deficiency that his own management of the financial affairs of this country might enable him to create during the ensuring year. He invited the attention of the House to this, because he thought there never was any occasion on which it was more desirable that the Finance Minister should fully appreciate the true financial position of the country.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the Hon. Finance Minister interrupted him with a derisive "Hear, hear", but the hon. gentleman himself

must acknowledge that the estimates were not so well prepared as he would have liked them to have been, because in his famous speech he had stated that during the five months he had been in office he had spent three of them in the elections, and had only been able to devote eight weeks to the affairs of the country and he had the humiliating confession tonight that he had miscalculated the true interest of the people in the important question of levying taxes to the extent of three million.

It did not become the hon. gentleman to question the fact he stated to the House, that there never was a time in the history of this country that it was more necessary that every independent member should address himself to the consideration of the important questions upon which the prosperity of Canada depended.

Now the hon. gentleman had said they had no reason to expect more than twenty-two million of revenue during the coming year. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) joined issue there with the hon. gentleman. He could go back and take up year after year and show a steadily increasing revenue in the face of decreased taxation. He could show that they had reduced the taxation over $2,000,000 a year; that they had still a surplus of upwards of $1,600,000 last year, and that in the current year they might look for over one and a half million income from the existing tariff. They might assume that the revenue for the last three months of the current year at the rate of the first nine months would be $520,000; so the revenue of this year would be $22,200,000.

The revenue of last year—"the year of heedless plenty", as the Hon. Minister of Finance had termed it, whatever he might mean by that—the revenue of last year, he repeated, it would be seen, was exceeded by the revenue of the current year by $1,447,000. He thought he had established the point that there had been no falling off in the trade and business of the country, but that on the contrary it had been steadily increasing. If the Hon. Minister of Finance would add that $1,500,000 to the $2,260,000 that he had in the previous year, he would find he would have no excuse for asking for the imposition of a single dollar of additional taxation, even in view of the expenditure.

Having disposed of the question of the deficit—as to whether any would exist on the lst of July, 1874—he proposed to examine the estimates the hon. gentleman had laid upon the table of the House, and he intended to show the House that the statement the hon. gentleman made a few nights previously was the most disingenuous speech that ever fell from the lips of any Finance Minister in the world. He would show that it would be impossible by terms to be found in the English language to convey a more disingenuous, a more unfair, or a more unjust statement of the public affairs of the country than that which the hon. gentleman had delivered.

If the hon. gentlemen would turn to the speech which he delivered, they would find this remarkable passage: "I do not know of any instance in which a Government having such a windfall of prosperity succeeded in four years in turning a surplus of $4,000,000 into a deficit in the face of progressive revenue." (*Hear, hear.*) That sentiment was cheered by hon. gentlemen who sat behind the Finance Minister, and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) supposed they accepted it as true. It would be impossible in as many lines to make any statement so unfounded in fact, and so fully at variance with the facts.

He could refer them to a case, which occurred lately, in which a surplus of five million was turned into a deficit in an hour. Had the hon. gentleman read the speech of Sir Stafford Northcote, who rose to speak with a surplus of 5,000,000 pounds and who sat down with a deficit? The Chancellor of the Exchequer of England reduced his surplus just as the late Government reduced theirs. How did he do this? He did it by taking a penny off the income tax! How did the late Government dispose of ours? Why by reducing the taxation of the country $2,000,000 a year, and expending the balance in the manner most useful to the country.

Hon. gentlemen knew they brought Provinces into the Dominion reducing this surplus; they had assumed the debt of Ontario and Quebec. That policy was sustained by an overwhelming majority of the House, and many of the tried supporters of the hon. leader of the Government abandoned him and voted against him on that policy. In the Maritime Provinces everyone knew there was but one sentiment. It was not increasing the debt of the country, but merely placing it in a different position and relieving Ontario and Quebec of this incubus. These Provinces were now enabled to employ the money they would have paid as interest on their debts in opening up the country and fostering the industries. That policy had stimulated the business and increased the revenues of the country. That policy would increase the business of the country which was going to pour money into our coffers, which money the Hon. Finance Minister seemed disposed to spend so lavishly.

The late Government spent $150,000 in carrying out an important branch of the Reciprocity Treaty, in compensating the Province of New Brunswick for their export duty. He would ask if that was a waste of money. Hon. gentlemen had obstructed it to a certain point, but not one of them ventured to record a vote against it.

Then there were the charges in connection with the Northwest and the interest on the Intercolonial Railway loan by which they had converted the surplus into a deficit, but he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) called it reducing the surplus, as no deficit existed. They had paid nearly $3,000,000 of money into the sinking fund, which had gone to the redemption of the debt, and which would, in about thirty-five years, wipe out the debt of the Intercolonial Railway. They had reduced the surplus of $4,000,000 by remitting the taxation on the people and by providing liberally for the service of the country. In the face of these facts the hon. gentlemen opposite had flung taunts across the floor of the House, as if they (the Opposition) had been guilty of criminal waste of money while in power.

For the past three years the Hon. Finance Minister had been one of the most severe critics of the budgets brought down, and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) appealed to every gentleman who was in the late Parliament as to whether he was correct in saying that there was no man in the House who denounced the late Government so continually and so pertinaciously for excessive expenditure. He held out to the people of the country that the late Government was

wasting the public revenue, and that there was no justification for their expenditure. He took so gloomy and desperate a view of the resources of the country that he thought the country was going to be plunged into debt and ruined, but every budget had given them millions more than the hon. gentleman said it would. They were open to his criticism in 1871-1872, in 1872-1873 and in 1873-1874; and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) asked if these were legitimate criticisms and if the late Government had not some excuse for lavish expenditure, because they found themselves in this position; with reduced taxation and reduced burdens on the people, they had abundant money to expend upon public services requiring the aid and support of the Government.

The hon. gentleman said in his speech that a great many of the services were charged to current expenditure which might more properly belong to capital, and that every Government was in the habit of charging such works as Custom Houses and the Post Office at Montreal to capital, and not to current expenditure. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would tell the hon. gentleman he would agree with him that such large expenditures should not be charged to current expenditure unless they were in a position to show that the revenue of the day, under the existing tariff, would provide for them. That was the position of the late Government. Their position was that in six years, notwithstanding this lavish expenditure, $11,726,045 had been expended out of the current revenue on permanent public works chargeable to capital. The public debt by this action of the late Government was upwards of $11,000,000, and less than it would have been had they not appropriated this sum to public works—chargeable to capital.

They paid the further sum of over $260,000 into the sinking fund for the reduction of the debt, independent of that, and while they were doing this, notwithstanding their lavish expenditure they were able to show that they could not only reduce the public debt, expend millions on public works chargeable to capital, but at the same time reduce the rate of taxation on imports for consumption from 18 1/2 to 10 1/2 per cent, which they did in three years including the present year. He would ask if a Government that stood in that position was not in a position to carry on the public services of the country, not only in a generous manner but to lavishly expend the public funds in the construction of the various public works needed in the various Provinces.

What was the hon. gentleman's own position? He, who denounced the late Government as unworthy of the confidence of the country, the Government which had made these expenditures, while they had abundant means after decreasing the tariff, came before the House and said, "I am going not only to ask the House to make just as lavish expenditure as that I have denounced, but bring down a heavier Budget than even they did."

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) maintained that the hon. gentleman was in a completely untenable position, and the hon. gentleman faltered when he stood up before the House and asked the House to levy $3,000,000 additional taxation, and with the same breath for a vote of a larger sum of money for current expenditure than his predecessor, whom he denounced, has ever asked for. The Finance Minister was on the horns of a dilemma and he attempted to escape from it by the most disingenuous statement a Finance Minister ever made.

Here was a remarkable statement which the hon. gentleman addressed to this House in justification of this position and he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) invited the careful attention of the House to this statement of the Finance Minister. This portion of his speech was as follows: "Then with regard to public works chargeable to income, my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works estimates that he will require no less than $2,630,000. That estimate is larger than Mr. Tilley's, which was $2,450,000; but I call the attention of the Committee to those items of the estimates, because they will find that in the particulars chargeable to income, my hon. friend has hardly an item on his own account with the exception of St. John's Harbour, the whole of this sum being devoted to carrying out works actually engaged in by his predecessors. I am aware that some of my hon. friends think this an enormous outlay that need not be gone on with but I desire to say that the public works which are in process of construction must be completed within a short time. I can see no purpose to be served by "cooking" our estimates, and apparently reducing the amount chargeable this year in order that it may be swollen the next."

"My hon. friend has preferred, and I think he was perfectly right in so doing, to bring down these estimates to show the obligations placed on him by the action of the late Government. I invite the special attention of the Committee to these items, because they will see that, in going through the estimates of roads and bridges and buildings in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and British Columbia, votes had been taken, money spent, and work actually engaged in by my hon. friend's predecessors. I contend that my hon. friend cannot fairly he held responsible for going on with works which he found actually commenced, and in some cases half completed by the late Government, and if these items are excessive, the fault does not lie with my hon. friend; the fault lies with the hon. gentlemen who rendered it necessary that he should demand this sum at the hands of the House." (*Hear, hear.*)

"We are at this moment engaged in completing extensive public works of this particular kind, and possibly some of this might fairly be charged to capital account, but it has not been done heretofore and on the whole it would not now be expedient to commence, though in any case I hope a considerable saving will be effected. I must again repeat that it would be in the last degree unjust to my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works to hold him responsible for this state of things, or to ask him to stop works already commenced and to put a reduced sum in the estimates; but, when the works now engaged in are completed, which I expect will be the case in eighteen months, a considerable saving will be effected in the annual expenditure, though for this considerable period of time it is necessarily required." (*Hear, hear.*)

On this very point the Hon. Minister of Finance had especially denounced his predecessors. He and his colleagues had especially denounced the late Government for this class of public works as bribes to constituencies for the purchase of support in Parliament. The Hon. Minister of Finance brought down a budget containing a total of public works chargeable to income of $2,723,300 against

$2,450,000 for 1873-1874. Instead of it being true there was nothing additional contained in that budget except a paltry $40,000 for the harbour of Saint John, he found that $271,000 were asked for works not entered upon, and for which no obligation rested with the present Government. Was he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) not right in saying this was an attempt to escape from the horns of the dilemma on which he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) was impaled? Besides this $271,000 required for new works $380,000 more in addition would be necessary to complete them, so there was an expenditure of over half a million of dollars introduced into the budget by the economical Finance Minister who looked with dread and forbiddingly on the commercial prospects and demanded three million dollars of additional taxation from the people. Yet he came there with a half million dollars of additional expenditure for a class of works that he and his colleagues had continuously denounced for years. They found that the hon. gentleman had increased other services. [*Editor's note: Material left out here.*]

Hon. Mr. TUPPER, continuing his speech, said that they found that the hon. gentleman had increased other services connected with the Government in all to the extent of $15,000,000. They had also increased the public works chargeable to capital no less than another one and a half million. He did not intend to follow, line by line, the exhaustive speech of the Finance Minister. He had, however, to reiterate that he disingenuously attempted to escape from the dilemma in which he found himself. He maintained that it was not necessary to impose a single dollar of additional taxation on the people.

With regard to the present financial scheme, he desired to make a suggestion, if it were not too late, and he was encouraged by the fact that the hon. gentleman had admitted, though not in his place, that he had miscalculated the true resources of the country. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) was encouraged by this to venture another suggestion, and that was that, instead of imposing the three millions of new taxation and instead of deranging the trade and business of the country, and instead of trying a new experiment, he would let well alone and rest upon the tariff which he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had shown him he might rely upon to yield an additional one and half million dollars year after year.

He considered it would be advisable to rest upon that, and, if the works were necessary, to charge them to capital account. These works were generally charged to capital account and not to income, and the late Government was only induced to charge them to the current account because they had more money than they knew what to do with; but when the Finance Minister came face to face with new taxation he was bound to charge every dollar to capital account, and thereby make the interest on the amount chargeable to the country. Only $1,000,000 additional were required to complete the whole of the works in question after the ensuring year, and if this amount was added to the debt, to which it was comparatively a very small addition, the necessity for additional taxation would be removed.

He had endeavoured to show that the trade interests and the revenue of this country received no additional taxation. Look where they would, to the east, west, north and south—look in every direction they would, except into the inner consciousness of the Finance Minister himself, and they found everything in the most prosperous condition that any country was in on the face of the globe. He wished to call the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister, who told them that he was going into the market of the financial world to borrow money, to the effect of the cause. He would have to borrow nearly fifteen million this year, and he would ask him whether his position was going to be improved by the speech he delivered in this House, and whether, considering the existing commercial prosperity of the country and in the state of the revenue, it was not criminal for a Finance Minister upon whose words depended the credit of the country to have put into the mouth of the Governor General such an unfounded statement as to the commercial condition and revenue of the country, and then following it up by his financial statement.

He had no hesitation in saying that any financier who placed confidence in his statements would draw back with alarm from Canada. He would draw the attention of the House to this fact, that the Finance Minister put deliberately on record that the Government of this country was committed to a policy which would pledge it to go to England to borrow thirty million per annum for seven years. Was that the way to establish the credit of the country? The hon. gentleman, before he sat down, showed that no such moral obligation rested with the late Government or with the present.

The result of the Speech from the Throne had been to reduce the value of Canadian bonds in England, and money could not be obtained now on the terms that otherwise could be. As the hon. gentleman looked at the trade and business of the country, he could find no excuse for the course he had pursued, except, having allowed the summit of his ambition to move him to use his position for the purpose of impressing upon the people in the future, that whatever he might have been in the past he was not a false prophet.

When the hon. gentleman submitted his tariff to the House, on the spur of the moment he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) characterized it as a meddlesome and mischievous tariff. The hon. gentleman had told them that night that he thought the tariff must be pretty near right because everybody complained of it. If it was the hon. gentleman's ambition to submit a tariff that would not find a friend, he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) congratulated him on his success. There was not an independent man in the House who did not feel that a very heavy blow had been struck at the best interests of Canada by that tariff. He would not elaborate this argument, because they had most abundant evidence in support of it.

He would now notice a few of the features of the proposed tariff. The Hon. Finance Minister had said that it was neither a Free Trade nor a Protection Tariff. It was in fact a hybrid tariff, such as might have been expected from a Free Trade Premier and a Protectionist Finance Minister. The subject of tobacco he would not dwell upon, as it was an article which he detested in all its forms and which he believed was of a very injurious nature, but there was no human power that could be brought to bear that would prevent the great mass of the people from using it. The poorer they were the more tobacco they used, and on this account he was opposed to the

increased taxation of this article. He did not argue that because this was a luxury, an injurious and unnecessary article, the Finance Minister was warranted in levying a higher duty upon it. There was another view which could be taken of this matter. A man would have his tobacco even though he deprived his family of some of the necessaries of life.

The subject of the taxation of spirits opened a wide field. The hon. gentleman had said he had reached a point where no more revenue could be obtained from spirits. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) wished to draw attention to the fact whether he might not be successful in gaining largely increased duties upon spirits. This experiment had been tried everywhere where revenues had been raised, and with the same result. There was a point in reference to the revenue on spirits and liquors that filled the country with vice. When they reached that point it would demoralize the country and fill it with illicit distilleries and give a premium to smuggling. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick there were facilities for the landing of small craft for hundreds of miles along the coast, where Custom Houses were few and far between; and the moment they gave a sufficient premium to induce men to take the trouble, that moment the law would be disregarded and smuggling would increase.

He desired to ask the Finance Minister whether it was not likely, in getting a revenue from increased duty on spirits, he would have to expend a large sum in protecting the long boundary line between Canada and the United States, when it was remembered that the excise on whisky was 75 cents in gold per gallon here, and but 70 in greenbacks in the United States, and that our distillers depended largely upon American-grown corn for their supply. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would not be surprised if the increased taxation in this respect would fail to obtain the desired result.

The hon. gentleman had introduced a measure for the prevention of the adulteration of liquors, and there never was a time when such a measure was of so much importance. The moment the price of spirits was raised, that moment they offered a premium to the invention of man to produce something like the article, no matter how deleterious. Therefore it was necessary that the bill should be pushed through with all speed, for the effect of adulterated liquors upon the health of our people would be most injurious.

The hon. gentleman, in introducing his Budget, claimed that he was going to be the poor man's friend, and that he was going to raise a revenue in a way that would not fall hard on him. He also stated that he was very anxious to protect the masses of the people, and to obtain his increased revenue by levying taxes upon the articles used by the rich. In this respect he seemed entirely to have failed, his tariff, as first introduced, having borne with particular severity upon the masses of the people, while the taxes upon liquors such as champagne were decreased. It was true he had proposed to levy special taxation upon silks, satins, velvets, et cetera, but now those were swept away.

The Finance Minister found he had not only to grapple with the criticisms of himself (Hon. Mr. Tupper) but he found that the great organs which supported the Government, *The Globe* of Toronto on the own hand, and the *Montreal Herald* on the other, had opened their columns to those who had given such a castigation to the Finance Minister as was never given to any Finance Minister before. Who could read the statements, pregnant with truth in every line, showing the utter inability of the Finance Minister to deal with the question he so rashly put his hand to, without feeling that the Finance Minister of the Parliament of Canada was utterly unequal to his position! The following appeared in *The Globe*, on Monday, April 20:

"THE DUTY ON WINES.—Whether this duty may not affect consumption so as to defeat the Finance Minister's expectations of revenue is worth considering, but this I do not enter upon. What I hope may be brought under his notice and receive full consideration is the unfairness and inequality of its practical working, and the manner in which it acts against the poor and in favour of the rich. For example, suppose a poor man buys a wine which costs sixty cents per gallon in bond, he pays another sixty cents, and a further sum of sixty cents as duty, or one hundred percent. Suppose again a rich man buys a wine which cost $6 a gallon in bond, all he pays of duty is sixty cents per gallon, or ten per cent. Sickness is not confined to the rich, and the proposed duty of sixty cents will confine the remedy to those who are tolerably well off, and force the poor, if a stimulant be required, to confine themselves to spirits, on which the increase of duty is nominal, and in the use of which there is unquestionably danger."

"Surely, apart from considerations of trade or revenue, justice or injustice, this ought to engage the most earnest attention of all who love and labour for temperance. Surely there cannot be any question between a good and wholesome wine and ardent spirits, and yet on the latter, which do the harm, an increase is proposed on the duty only equal to 10 per cent or less on their value. The expensive wants of luxury are lowered, while the cost of wines which may be required as articles of necessity is doubled."

The *Montreal Herald* of Monday, April 20, says:

"While a port wine, containing perhaps 45 per cent of natural and added alcohol, and costing say 65 pounds sterling per pipe in Oporto, equal to ten shillings sterling per colonial gallon, or $2.43, pays a duty of sixty shillings, or only about 28 per cent, a difference against the use of the light temperate wine of 78 per cent, thus directly encouraging the use of the highly brandied article. It also makes the poor man pay 78 cents more for his cheap and comparatively harmless wines than the rich man pays for his higher priced beverage. Under the late tariff of specific and *ad valorem* duties these cheap pure wines had thoroughly ousted and replaced the injurious manufactures of Hamburg formerly so much used in Canada. It will also, without doubt, increase the consumption of spirits, and the new tariff would therefore seem to be very great and decided blow to the cause of temperance."

He felt that the Finance Minister had exceeded his duty when he expended his time and expended the patience of his hearers in denouncing his predecessors, instead of explaining his tariff. To prove that the predecessors of the Finance Minister were worthy of all praise, he would go no further than the Finance Minister himself,

for he had admitted that after his vain and abortive attempts to fix up his tariff, he had come to the conclusion to get as near to the old tariff as possible. Having in vain tried his prentice hand, he was obliged to fall back upon the acts of his predecessors of whom he became as close as copyist as possible.

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) here quoted from the Finance Minister's speech, in which he said he had proposed a duty of 60 cents on wines in order to confine the poor to the use of spirits, which were cheaper. In disease it was necessary to have stimulants, but wines were not so fraught with danger as ardent spirits. He continued to speak of the singularity of this class of impost, saying that, before he sat down he knew the Finance Minister had a preference for champagne; and what were the facts? On one single entry as much as $80 had been saved by the importer, who could well afford to send the Minister an occasional basket. He confessed that he could not envy the feelings of the Finance Minister when he found that the Chancellor of the English Exchequer had abolished the duty on sugar, which he himself had proposed to reimpose here.

It seemed to him (Hon. Mr. Tupper) that it would be far better for the Finance Minister to return to the treasury the sum which it was proposed to expend for immigration purposes in order that the duties might be kept off tea and coffee, and reduced on sugar. It would be a waste of money to endeavour to induce the people of England to leave a country where the duty was swept away for one in which it was felt that the duty of fifty per cent was not enough.

He was glad that his hon. friend, on reconsideration, had taken the suggestions on this matter which he had ventured to give, but he had accompanied his determination by a confession that, though he had been compelled to abandon his project of increase on this article, he had not given up all ideas of getting it at some future day. He seemed, in effect, to say, "I am temporarily compelled to abandon it, but, if you think my decision a finality, you are mistaken." It was most important for a country that its trade and industry should look upon its tariff as permanent and not liable to change, except in a case of absolute necessity.

The Finance Minister had said the subject was surrounded with difficulty, and so he would find it indeed. He had already found it so, and had to withdraw his prentice hand, and fall back on those who had preceded him. No greater mistake could have been made by a Finance Minister, even if there had been no necessity for raising a dollar of extra revenue, than that committed by the present Minister, who had pictured our affairs as so gloomy and dark; but, now that we were going to the world as borrowers for funds to carry on our public works and to redeem our debt, it was the most vital consequence that every means should be adopted to draw the surplus millions of Europe to our soil in order to enrich it.

The Finance Minister had made a most fatal mistake when he had taken away from our Immigrant Agents the strongest and best arguments they could use to induce emigrants to leave their homes and come out here. The mere reduction of the duty on tea and coffee, and on other necessaries, would do more than any expenditure of money, accompanied with taxation, to induce people to come and settle amongst us; but, as he took it, the statement of the Finance Minister was only the entering wedge of an increase, step by step, in taxation.

He would now draw attention to one matter of no little importance. He meant the tax on machinery. Never had there been an Act more calculated to stimulate manufactures amongst us than the remission of taxes on machinery used in manufactures, and there was no more retrograde movement than the abolition of that policy. In 1870-1871 a little more than half a million worth of machines had been imported, the total being $542,113, but after the remission of the duty in two years the increase under this head had been $712,106. Although he disliked anything sectional, he must say that this was one of the important industries which had been injured by the tariff.

He referred to the invidious tax on shipping, and he was glad that his hon. friend had been driven by public sentiment, and by those behind him, to recede somewhat from the disastrous step he had taken. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) believed that, if the Finance Minister's ears were not altogether closed from suggestions coming from him, it might be worth his while to draw attention to the fact that the tax the Finance Minister was bringing upon them was only the iron heel of the Finance Minister of Ontario pressing on the people of the Maritime Provinces. If the hon. gentleman searched from end to end of the Parliamentary records of Canada, he would find no more sectional legislation than this.

In 1858 Parliament in its wisdom, feeling that if any industry had a precarious existence and should be fostered it was that of ship building, acted upon this most wise principle. The policy was inaugurated that ship building should be made free of duty. The result was that the industry was stimulated, and now that industry was found to flourish in the remotest corners of the Maritime Provinces. Let the Hon. Minister look at the neighbouring Republic and he would find that the policy of that country had swept their flag off the seas, and had given to others the carrying trade of the world. The United States, driven by the logic of events, were now retracing their steps and sweeping off the duty from ship materials. Reports which had been made to Congress, indeed, had shown that an impetus had been given which it was not possible to suppose.

A reciprocal treaty with the United States had been entered into a few years ago by which the United States fishermen shared with us our fisheries. If the hon. gentleman wanted to strike at our fisheries there was no surer way of doing it than the one now inaugurated. He would tell the Hon. Finance Minister that there was no more valuable class of community than those who had qualified themselves to become the defenders of our wooden walls, and that man was heedless and reckless who struck them down and did all he could to hamper the hardy sons of toil, whose life was a perilous and precarious one. He who ventured by one fell swoop to cripple their industry showed that he had not fully comprehended the situation. Under the fostering care of our Canadian Parliament, shipping has been made one of the first planks in our system. It has been fostered, and under that fostering care hundreds of thousands of vessels have been built, and on the good faith of the Government 63,000 tons had been contracted for last year. At present it was estimated that there was shipping amounting to 1,000,000 tons at

least on the stocks. How much would Ontario, with all her wealth, with all her millions in the treasury, contribute to the gross amount of this tax on shipping?

A VOICE: No surplus of millions now!

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: Well, if not a surplus now, it was even better, for it was invested in industries which were building up a prosperous nation. He continued to ask how much would Ontario contribute. She would only pay one dollar per 7,000 tons for sailing vessels alone out of the gross amount of 200,000 tons. But it was not on vessels alone that this tax fell. It fell upon every sailor. Formerly they used to get their outfit free. Now they had to enter in an unequal contest with the American fishermen on this very account. This, he contended, was an unjust attempt to draw from the Maritime Provinces an undue proportion of taxation.

As to the question of tea, in the Maritime Provinces they consumed black tea almost exclusively. All felt that under the old tariff of fifteen cents per pound on green and black, and seven per cent *ad valorem* on green and 3 1/2 on black, the tariff had been fairly regulated. Black tea was twenty-five per cent less expensive, and the old tariff gave this fair consideration. Now not only did they sweep away the old tariff, but they made a larger impost on black than on green tea. The new tariff was four per cent on green and three on black, and thus the position was changed from one-half to three-quarters on black as compared with green.

The hon. gentleman had stated frankly that his tariff was neither Free Trade nor Protection. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had told him when he introduced it that it was mischievous and meddlesome; but what could be expected from a cross between a Free Trade Premier and a Protectionist Financial Minister. Assuredly nothing but a hybrid policy—no policy at all, except that of the unjust screwing of $3,000,000 out of the people. There was no necessity, he urged, for this taxation; but he had no hesitation in saying that, when the Government came down for money for public improvements and enterprises, people would gladly give away to them, and then it should be laid upon a basis that was different to this, and should be approached in a manner far different to that in which the Finance Minister approached the subject. He felt that a serious blow had been struck at the credit of the country, and believed that the question required an independent expression of opinion not only from himself, but from every other member of the House.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he could not understand how the hon. gentleman could have arrived at the conclusion he had, unless it were that he was possessed by that *criat ignorantia* which casuists said was an excuse for anything but mortal sin. (*Hear, hear.*) It proved that a gentleman might be a talented Minister of State, and have a vast quantity of information on these subjects, but might emerge from his critical position without any idea of financial affairs. He was at a loss to know to which of the hon. gentleman's remarks to direct his attention—whether to his ingenious idea that the correct way to implement the resources of the present year was to take $1,600,000 from the revenues of the last year, or the grand specimen of statecraft he had given in objecting to the mention of the deficit in Her Majesty's Speech. If it had not been so stated, all the great traders would have done just what they have done, removed their goods from bond, while a few small storekeepers would have left theirs in bond.

Long before the Queen's Speech was made gentlemen who had no access to official information had predicted a deficit, and Mr. Tilley, his predecessor, himself had stated from that very seat there must be a certain deficiency (*Hear, hear*), and yet after that hon. gentlemen supposed that goods would have been left in bond to be dealt with according to his (Hon. Mr. Cartwright's) tender mercies.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asked how it was if every intelligent man in this country knew that the tariff was to be increased before the Speech that the Speech was immediately followed by this enormous increase of revenue.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said they had evidence that before the Speech was made, goods had begun to be withdrawn from bond. Of course none of the merchants desired to be out of pocket a minute longer than they could help, and so the majority of them waited until the usual announcement was made before they took their goods out of bond. The fact was the view of statecraft taken by government differed very widely from that of the hon. gentleman. He said they would damage the credit of the country by daring to tell the truth.

He (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) alleged that English capitalists would have greater confidence in the resources of the country when they found that on an emergency of this kind the Government were prepared to meet it boldly. (*Cheers.*) The enormous character of the engagements which the late Government had inflicted upon the country compelled him to provide not only for the want of the current year, but for an increasing capital expenditure, which could be computed only by millions. The Government had considered this matter carefully, and would, he believed, be able to discharge fairly every moral obligation which had been incurred. (*Hear, hear.*)

His hon. friend had expended a great deal of commiseration—he would not say hypocritical commiseration—in reference to the poor as against the rich consumers of wine. The hon. gentleman must know that, in England, the duties levied on wines were simply of two classes, the one a shilling per gallon and the other two shillings and six pence per gallon, and no discrimination was made between the rich and the poor. Here everyone knew that poor men did not drink wine, as a matter of course. There might be a district in the Province of Quebec where the contrary rule prevailed, but generally the class which consumed the one description of wine also consumed the other.

With regard to the duty of five cents per pound upon tobacco, which he also said would bear heavily upon the poor man, he had been informed that about ten pounds of tobacco would last a man a year, so that the additional amount would be only fifty cents.

As for the duty on tea, in England it was twelve cents per pound—more than threefold the tax the Government proposed to place on tea here, which would fully counterbalance the duty on sugar.

The hon. gentleman had charged him with disingenuousness in stating that most of the sum asked for public works chargeable to

income was attributable to the late Government. The fact was, however, that out of nearly $2,700,000 asked under this head, more than nine-tenths was the result of engagements entered into by the hon. gentleman's colleagues. As for the million and a half which the hon. gentleman said he might count upon from imports under the tariff which previously existed, he confessed his inability to know how, with the clearest evidence before them that the imports were not only stationary but declining, any such inference could be drawn. If the amount fairly chargeable for the entrance of Prince Edward Island into the union were deducted, there was no increase on the amounts entered for consumption.

The increase in post offices, et cetera, to which the hon. gentleman alluded, was due to a bookkeeping change made by the late Government in 1872-1873 by which the work of some of the minor offices was transferred to the Department.

With regard to the item of collection of revenue for public works, the revenue for the nine months ending the lst of April, 1874, amounted to $1,011,000. The estimate of his predecessor was two and a quarter million for the current month.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that estimate was prepared under the impression that the Government were going to take the portion of the road from Rivière du Loup, now worked by the Grand Trunk, and that the section of the Intercolonial Railway would be opened.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he was most thankful that that expectation was not fulfilled, as it would probably cost $300,000 or $400,000 more. Taking into account the addition of Prince Edward Island, the customs in 1873-1874 were nearly exactly equal for the nine months—in other words, we had stood precisely equal in that matter.

He had not stated that the country had retrograded, but merely that after a year of unexampled commercial prosperity a pause had occurred. It was absurd to pretend that the imports were likely to increase, when they knew they were perfectly stationary up to the lst of April. The nominal receipts and expenditure had almost balanced on the lst of April, 1873. There was a surplus of $1,600,000 as against $100,000 for this year. In 1872 the surplus was $3,000,000 and in 1871, $3,100,000. There was no ground for assuming from the fact that the receipts and expenditures so nearly balanced that there would be anything like a surplus, because the greater portion of the expenses were not entered in their books until some time after they had been actually incurred.

He hoped at a very early period to be able to lay before the House the supplementary estimates for 1873-1874. The hon. gentleman had commiserated with him on the painful humiliation he supposed him to have experienced in making an announcement of modification of the tariff. He was, however, like the hon. gentleman, a little pachydermatous, and was satisfied so long as the House gave the money. He had merely made alterations in detail, and he did not wish to have three and a quarter million out of the people of this country, and had given back the quarter of a million in the way which he thought would be most acceptable to the country at large. It would have been in bad taste for him to have exaggerated or perverted the facts, but it was his duty to state the facts as they were, and to let the people know the magnitude of the engagements which they had undertaken, and the ways in which they might look for relief. (*Hear, hear.*)

They had to provide for steadily increasing burdens in the future, otherwise so much taxation might not have been required. The hon. gentleman forgot the spectacle which had been witnessed when he was upon the Ministerial benches. (*Cheers.*) The present Government had taken fourteen or sixteen days to consider the representations made to them, and had altered their policy only in detail, while standing fast to their principles. The late Government created and burned their national policy in three hours, and he believed the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had a leading part in the transaction.

Sir Alexander Galt himself made as important a change as this on the introduction of his first budget in 1866. Sir John Rose had made changes, and all the gentlemen whom he had succeeded, with the exception of Mr. Tilley, had made more than one change. He thought there should be no false shame in amending a mistake, if mistake it were, especially when only minor details—as details they were—were concerned. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that, although he did not propose to answer the speech of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), which had been met by the Hon. Minister of Finance, yet he would be calling attention to the extraordinary position assumed by him. He had listened to a good many disingenuous and a good many dishonest speeches, but he had never listened to one in which all these qualities were combined to such an extent. ("*Hear, hear*" *from the Government benches, and* "*No, no*" *and* "*Order*" *from the Opposition.*) His words were parliamentary, although they might be strong. They were intended to be strong. The speech was more audacious even than that delivered by the right hon. gentleman the other night.

Mr. PLUMB: Are you really serious?

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he was serious. He did not think that the hon. gentleman opposite, who had been declared by the country wholly unfit to be entrusted any longer with the management of its affairs, who had brought the finances into a condition which rendered a change in the tariff absolutely necessary, should accuse the hon. gentleman who was dealing with the consequences of that Administration.

With reference to the qualified modifications of the Finance Minister, he believed they would be received with entire satisfaction. (*Hear, hear.*) In no one point had he abandoned the main feature of his scheme, which was the necessity for three million dollars of additional taxation.

He contended that a heaven-born Minister—and there were no heaven-born Ministers now-a-days—could have foreseen, in the quiet of his study, all the objections that had since been raised against the tariff. Instead of the criticism and ridicule of gentlemen opposite, the Finance Minister deserved the highest praise of the country. The modifications submitted by him, he contended, entitled him to the cordial support of the whole House. (*Applause.*)

Mr. PLUMB, in the course of his remarks, referred to the commercial crisis of the United States which affected Canada so very little, and which he thought went a long way to proving that the country was not in that very distressed state which the Hon. Minister of Finance wished to make out. He did not see anything which warranted him in thinking that the statement of the Finance Minister as to the deficit of three million had any foundation except in his own imagination. It was the easiest thing in the world, however, to make an imaginary deficit.

He did not object to a proper system of taxation, and hoped that both he and every member of the House would support the Finance Minister, if he only based his taxes on a sound system; but he contended that the present tariff muddled everything, protected nothing, and disturbed every branch of the Legislature.

He then proceeded to review the chief items, and observed that there had been an argumentation on every one of them. The people, he thought, would be disappointed when, after the promises of the new Government of the many retrenchments to be made, they still had an augmentation in the taxes. It would be useless to tell the people that the increased taxation was owing to the late Government, for they would be told they were sent there to eliminate them from it.

Mr. WILKES pointed out what little ground the member for Cumberland had for claiming for Hon. Sir Francis Hincks the name of a great Finance Minister, and went on to combat the assertion that the new tariff was drawn up in the interest of Ontario. He pointed out that the taxation on the shipping of the Maritime Provinces would not amount to more than $30,000, or one per cent, and ridiculed the assertion of the member for Cumberland with reference to the increased tax on tobacco, which would amount probably to a tenth of a cent a day to the smoker. If this were such a terrible impost, what must the poor English working man suffer who had to pay 78 cents on each pound of tobacco he used?

With reference to the hon. gentleman's calculations as to future revenues, he contended that it was not safe to base such calculations on the certainty of uninterrupted prosperity. He thought we had now arrived at a time when we should pause, although there was no doubt that we were making great progress, as the returns showed that our trade is nearly double per head what that of the United States is.

He had great pleasure in expressing the confidence which he believed the country would have in the Government with reference to the estimates that had been made.

Mr. YOUNG said that he had listened with pleasure to the able exposition of our financial situation in the budget speech and in the other speeches the Finance Minister had made, and although those speeches had been denounced as disingenuous and gloomy, he ventured to say that there was nothing in them which would be more acceptable to the people of the country, and nothing which had been more acceptable to this House, than the fact that he had given them a full and candid statement and laid bare our whole financial position. There was nothing in that statement, in his (Mr. Young's) opinion, to startle the country. He had great faith in the resources of our Dominion; and after all we were not a very highly taxed people—but the Finance Minister's statement was one which might well excite serious thought.

He (Mr. Young) predicted from the floor of this House last session that increased taxation would be the inevitable result of the reckless expenditure of the late Government. He would have been surprised had he not heard the hon. gentleman express surprise at the hardihood of the hon. member for Cumberland in seeking to defend the financial transactions of the late Administration in face of the fact that the Finance Minister was compelled, in order to pay the debts of the late Government, to come down with the enormous estimate of $42,000,000, and announce a deficit for the current year. The hon. gentleman had endeavoured to mystify the amount of that deficit, but they had the carefully prepared estimate of the Finance Minister; and the revised statements for the current year from the Finance Department, which were usually correct, showed that the whole expenditure for the current year would be $24,100,000, and the receipts $22,000,000, leaving a clear deficit of $2,100,000.

A hon. gentleman opposite had objected to this statement, and endeavoured to impugn the figures which had been laid before the House; but did he show that one single item mentioned by the Hon. Finance Minister was incorrect? They had the Hon. Finance Minister laying the estimates of Mr. Tilley before the House along with his own, and showing every item which increased the latter's estimate, and the hon. gentleman did not impugn one single item of that increased expenditure.

There were two items which went to make up a large portion of the whole of the increase—that for Prince Edward Island and that for the Mounted Police—and the hon. gentleman did not deny that the late Government were responsible for them. How did the hon. gentleman proceed with his argument then? Why, he went on to say that there had been an increase in the revenue over the estimated expenditure of the current year, as far as it had gone, of $3,900,000, and he went on further to say that taking the same estimates as an indication of our income for the rest of the year, there would be an increase on the estimated revenue for the whole year of $590,000. Deducting that, however, they found that there would still be a deficit of $1,840,000. They were not sure that the revenue would continue to be as great for the rest of the year as it had been, and the hon. gentleman himself had admitted that if the importations had not declined, they had commenced to do so.

And what did the hon. gentleman say further? Why, to reduce the deficit and try to make out a surplus, he actually counted in the surplus of $1,638,822 for last year. Who ever heard of anything like that before? The hon. gentleman must have known when he was doing this that he was almost insulting the intelligence of the House. The fact that the hon. gentleman had to resort to that subterfuge showed the poverty of his position, and how unable he was to make good his very emphatic utterances with regard to there being no deficit.

No evidence had been brought before them to show that there would be no deficit, but he (Mr. Young) contended that there would

be one, and that it would be directly the result of the policy of the hon. gentleman opposite and of his late colleague, who had pursued a similar course to that of the hon. member for Kingston in the Parliament of Old Canada, for some six years, from 1856 to 1862.

If he (Mr. Young) remembered rightly, the hon. member for Kingston allowed the Province of Canada to run behind with an average deficit of three million dollars per annum, and over $20,000,000 of our present Dominion debt was not the result of public works being entered upon, but of the deficits which that hon. gentleman allowed to occur during that period.

Since Confederation, however, the commerce of the country had expanded as it had never expanded before. They knew that there had been an increase in our trade from $130,000,000 in 1868 to $217,000,000 last year. This vast increase had largely filled the Dominion treasury. In fact, the revenue was never so buoyant as during that period, and the fact that we have been landed in a deficit in the face of this large increase in the revenue was most conclusive evidence of the extravagant manner in which the late Government had conducted the affairs of the country.

The hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had endeavoured to account for the deficit by saying that the late Government remitted taxation, but he (Mr. Young) held that the real cause of that deficit was not that they remitted the small amount of $1,200,000 of taxation, but that our expenditure had annually increased under the rule of hon. gentlemen opposite.

He held in his hand a statement of the increase in that expenditure, which showed the revenue for the year 1867-1868 to have been $13,687,928, and the amount for the current year almost certain to be realized to be clearly $22,000,000—a very rapid increase. But let them look at the expenditure. In 1867-1868 it was $13,486,092; in 1868-1869 it increased—not a very great deal, because Sir John Rose was anxious at that time to keep down the expenditure—to $14,038,084. In 1869-1870 it was $14,345,509; but about this time we had the advantage of having Hon. Sir Francis Hincks become the Finance Minister of the Dominion, and it would be remarked that from that time the increase of expenditure went on at a very rapid rate. In 1870-1871, the expenditure was $15,623,081; in 1871-1872, it was $17,589,468; in 1872-1873, it increased to $19,174,647, and for this year it was estimated, as already stated, at $24,100,000. In a short space of six years the late Government had nearly doubled the annual expenditure, adding nearly two million each year, almost enough for carrying on the Government of the Province of Ontario. One of the worst results of this increase was, that having once made it, it was almost impossible to reduce it. Everyone knew this from his own personal experience, but if the difficulty was great in the case of an individual it was worse in that of a country.

Coming to the estimates for the current year, the most striking fact they had before them was that there was a proposed expenditure of no less than $42,000,000. The Minister of Finance had told them what his feelings were when he first saw those figures. He was surprised at their magnitude, and he (Mr. Young) did not wonder at it. Those figures were enormously large, and he could easily understand the reason why the Finance Minister made the speech he did on first introducing this matter to the House. The hon. gentleman acted wisely, in his (Mr. Young's) opinion, at that time in stating the whole facts of the case, and possibly he had less hesitation in doing so because these estimates were not his own. Practically, they were those of the late government and for them the country would hold the latter responsible. If they wanted to get at the ordinary expenditure of the country they had to deduct from the total expenditure of $42,000,000 the item after the redemption of the public debt, $5,752,601, and the expenditure proposed upon capital account for public works, $11,606,625, making $17,359,276. Having deducted this, they reached the estimated expenditure for next year, which was $24,664,000.

So far as public works are concerned he did not think the late Government were responsible or to be blamed with regard to this capital expenditure. It was for such works as our canals, and the House knew that these were contemplated at the time of Confederation. They were mentioned in the British North America Act, and they were demanded by the people. These works would open up our great highway to the ocean, and either directly or indirectly would well repay the country for the money expended on them. But they could not possibly estimate the financial position of this country if they did not consider the effect the construction of these works would have upon the burdens of the people and upon our public debt. He found by the public accounts sent down this session that, deducting our valuable assets, we had a public debt on the 30th June last of $100,000,000. We had in the estimates of expenditure on account of canals, $31,000,000. He had never yet heard any unprejudiced person, who paid any attention to the subject or expressed any opinion on the matter, who said that the Pacific Railway could be constructed for less than $150,000,000.

If they looked to the expenditure of the American Pacific, which was only some 1,700 miles long—while ours would be 2,700—it was not reasonable to believe that the latter could be constructed for less than $150,000,000. But he would take a figure which was sure to be below the mark, though in doing this he did not leave out of view the fact that we might yet have to avail ourselves of some of our public lands, and he would put the construction of the road at $100,000,000.

We had, therefore, $131,000,000 which must be added in a short time to the debt of the country. Leaving out of view the fact that we might have to construct other public works, still the public debt must, in the course of a few years, run up to $231,000,000. This, he thought, would be quite a heavy public debt for some four million people to bear. He had no doubt, however, that if sufficient time were given our resources would be found equal to the emergency, and that we would be able to meet all engagements. But he would say that if we undertook to borrow this amount within the next few years, our action would be quite worthy of being denominated, as the Minister of Finance had denominated it, ridiculously absurd.

He did not know, if the late Government had gone on to borrow the money to build canals and the Pacific Railway within the time stipulated, where they would have landed the finances of the country. He knew that some of the most considerable financial men

in the country believed that if the policy the late government were bent on pursuing had not been checked it would have speedily crushed the people under an almost intolerable burden of taxation.

He was amazed at the temerity of the hon. member for Cumberland with reference to the Pacific Railway. He threw out charges to the effect that the present Government were in some way responsible for the failure of that scheme, but did he bring forward any proof of that? No, for the true cause of the failure of that scheme was because its enormous but uncertain cost frightened the capitalists of Europe, and the company was a bogus one, composed mainly of political favourites of the late Government. That scheme was a failure because the late Government went to the money markets of the world and asked for an immense money loan without having any proper surveys or estimates of costs to show to those from whom they wished to borrow. That scheme failed because there came to light transactions between the Government and Sir Hugh Allan which must forever reflect disgrace both upon the Government and upon that gentleman; and he (Mr. Young) said now, as he did last year on the floor of this House, that it was well for the people of Canada that that scheme did fail, for a wilder and more Quixotic scheme was never placed before an intelligent people.

This was not the time to discuss the Pacific Railway scheme of the present Government, but as the hon. member for Cumberland had seen fit to denounce it, he (Mr. Young) might be permitted to say a few words with regard to it. If he understood the utterances of the Premier aright, the Government proposed to make those portions of the railway which are more needed first—those portions which, in conjunction with our waterways, will open up the Northwest to settlement, and enable us to settle it most rapidly—that will open up communication with British Columbia and enable us to settle that country rapidly and that after that the Government would soon go on and build the railway from ocean to ocean as soon as the circumstances of the country required it and our finances will admit. He held that this was a practical, common-sense scheme, and that during the late elections it did much to give the Government that overwhelming strength they now had on the floor of the House.

The hon. member for Cumberland had charged the Government with a breach of faith to British Columbia. Well, if so, he (Mr. Young) held that it was because the hon. gentleman's Government made a pledge which rendered that breach of faith inevitable. Nothing would have been easier than for the present Government to say, "We will construct the road in seven years," and then do as the Government to which the hon. gentleman belonged did—break their promise. He (Mr. Young) contended that in view of the fact that we have been six years in constructing the Intercolonial, and have not yet got it finished, it would have been simply deceiving the people of British Columbia for the present Government to have said they would construct the road in the time stipulated. He might say to those gentlemen who were here from the Province of British Columbia, that if this Government had proposed to abandon the Pacific Railway, he, as one of the representatives from the Province of Ontario, would not have sustained them in the proposition.

British Columbia was deeply interested in this line of railway; but she was not alone in being interested. Ontario was deeply interested in it; Quebec was deeply interested in it; every one of the Provinces was deeply interested in it; every patriotic Canadian was interested in it. He believed everyone was deeply interested in this railway who wished to see the people of these Provinces blended into one great Canadian nationality. But he had never hesitated in saying that, while these were his views, he did not wish this road constructed in such a way as to cripple our finances and perhaps jeopardize the stability of the Dominion itself, but constructed in such a way as to bring about that great future for the country which he was sure every Canadian hoped for.

He would now return to the estimates for next year. The hon. member for Cumberland had endeavoured to show that the present Government was responsible for a considerable expenditure under these estimates. Now, he thought that any hon. gentleman who took these estimates up and looked at the number of re-votes proposed would see that the expenditure by this Government was very little indeed. The total proposed expenditure, as they had seen already, was $24,664,140, and the expenditure for the current year was estimated at $24,100,000, thus leaving an excess of expenditure over that of the last year of $564,140. This excess was made up principally by two items, for which the present Government were not responsible; and there was, certainly, very little new expenditure in the estimates for which they were responsible. But it was not to be forgotten that these estimates were exceedingly large, and he hoped that they would next year see, if possible, some reduction in the amount of our annual expenditure.

He was free to admit that it was very difficult when once the expenditure was increased to reduce it, but if it was found impossible by the Government to reduce the expenditure, he hoped they would at least keep it in check for a few years to come. There was nothing which would be more acceptable to the people of every Province than the practice of a little economy by the Government for the next few years. He had shown them that the present Government had not proposed materially to increase the expenditure.

Let them now see what the deficiency for 1874-1875 would be. The total expenditure was estimated at $24,664,140, and the total revenue at $22,000,000, leaving a deficit for next year of $2,664,000. He did not think the Minister of Finance would have been justified in expending more revenue than $22,000,000. The revenue of the past few years had been abnormally swelled by the great public works going on, and he (Mr. Young) thought the hon. gentleman would have been exceedingly censurable if he had not taken steps to prevent the recurrence of a deficit of two million and three quarters next year.

He (Mr. Young) regretted as much as anyone the necessity for increased taxation. He was not one of those who believed that a national debt was a blessing, but he believed that it was to the interest of this country to keep taxation as low as possible, to keep the cost of living as low as possible, and to keep the cost of

production as low as possible. In this way they would best attract the capital and labour necessary to develop its resources and increase it prosperity. During the past year the prosperity of this country had been as great as that of the United States, while the cost of living and production had been lower. (*Hear, hear.*)

He held that when the Government found that there was a deficit of $2,100,000 for the current year, and that there was an estimated deficit of $2,664,149 for the next year, they did but right to propose increased taxation, and would have been highly censurable if, with that before them, they had allowed our young Dominion to appear before the world as borrowing and adding to its public debt to meet its ordinary annual expenditure. The hon. member for Cumberland had gone on to show that there had been a fall in the securities of the country, and to attack hon. gentlemen on this side of the House for it.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: I said that it was owing to the publication in the Speech from the Throne of the fact that there was a deficit.

Mr. YOUNG said that the loss of the credit of the country was due more to the corrupt action of the late Government in selling a great public contract. If the hon. gentleman looked at the papers he would see that there was a fall in our securities before the publication of the Speech from the Throne. If the hon. gentleman had been as anxious about the credit of the country as he asserted, he would have admitted that at a time like the present, when we would soon be compelled to go into the money markets of the world to borrow at least $131,000,000, it would have been simply criminal of the Hon. Minister of Finance not to have provided against a second deficit. (*Hear, hear.*)

As he (Mr. Young) had trespassed more than his wont upon the good nature of the House, at this late hour he would reserve any remarks, if he desired to make any, on the tariff which had been announced by the Hon. Minister of Finance. He would only say that the tax gatherer was never welcome, but he had no hesitation in saying that with the modifications in the details which the hon. gentlemen had made tonight, his tariff would have the support of a great majority of this House and command the confidence of the country. (*Hear, hear.*)

He would remark, in conclusion, that while the engagements of the Dominion were undoubtedly large, particularly in the matter of the Pacific Railway, he did not doubt that its resources would be found equal to the emergency. The only real financial danger, in his opinion, was our attempting to move forward too fast. If the Government were to attempt to perform impossibilities, if they were to undertake to construct the Pacific Railway and the canals in the short space of seven years, if they were to undertake to borrow and expend the sum of $131,000,000 in that time, then he feared the resources of the Dominion would be over-taxed, and we would find our energies and prosperity crushed under a heavy burden of taxation.

But give the country reasonable time, make it more attractive for capital and labour, and he did not fear that the Dominion would be able to implement all its engagements, and that these great public works, instead of endangering the fabric of the Confederation, would be the means of binding the various Provinces together, and do much to render stable the Dominion of Canada for all time to come. (*Applause.*)

Mr. DOMVILLE said he rose to express his opinion of the resolutions brought before the House by the Hon. Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright). After the able manner in which the Hon. Mr. Tupper had dealt with the question of a deficit, it was unnecessary for him to go over the same ground, and as it was quite apparent that a deficit did not exist, although it would appear from the budget speech that there was one, the public must be fully aware how easy it is to so mix figures that even the shrewdest may be deceived thereby. Yet he did not mean for one moment to intimate that the Finance Minister had done so intentionally, although from want of experience in his special department he may have committed some sad errors.

The question of a duty on tea was one that engaged the attention of the whole country, as it entered so universally into consumption both by the rich and by the poor. Under the present tariff green teas pay a duty of 4 cents per lb., and black 3 cents, whilst under the old tariff green paid 6 and black 4, a difference of 50 per cent. It was argued that this duty was adverse to Ontario, which consumed almost entirely green teas, whilst the Lower Provinces used black. This was a fallacy, inasmuch as it would be found by examining the trade returns for the fiscal year ending 1873 that the poor man who consumed a dollar's worth of black tea paid as much *ad valorem* as he who consumed green. Under the present tariff the results were the same. Thus it would be seen that the Lower Provinces stand in no better position than Ontario.

The Trade and Navigation returns lately laid on the table showed that twenty-two million pounds of tea were entered for consumption in the past year; this, under the present tariff, would yield a revenue of one million dollars, whilst the Finance Minister calculated on raising only some four hundred thousand dollars. This deduction was made from the Blue Book brought down, and presuming the statistics contained in it to be correct, a sum of six hundred thousand dollars would be extracted from the working classes over and above what the Finance Minister informed the House he expected to obtain. The Minister of Customs' report might be incorrect; but if such was the case, it should be now stated to the hon. members of the House by the Ministry, and in default of such statement those figures must be accepted as correct.

With regard to the tax on tobacco, which it was alleged did not bear hardly on the poor man, he asked hon. members how they would like a reduction of fifty per cent on the $1,000 salary they voted into each other's pockets last session. Yet this was what, with little thought, they intended doing to the poor man.

Mr. THOMPSON: The hon. gentleman has no right to allude to a previous debate. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. DOMVILLE: Where tobacco heretofore paid 10 cents duty, it would now pay 20 cents. Cigars being a luxury, he had little to say on that point.

The tax on shipbuilding materials he strongly condemned. It was true that the Government had somewhat modified their original tariff by excepting chains, yellow metal and some other articles, and had, with a flourish of trumpets, proclaimed that anchors were also exempted. Yet in the original resolutions they stated it was expedient to impose 5 per cent, or nearly $1 a ton, on ship materials, and under the head of ship materials they had placed iron scraps, galvanized or pig, bars, puddled steel, et cetera, without even mentioning the term anchor.

Had the Hon. Minister not intimated that anchors had escaped his notice, the public might have been led to believe he intended to moor vessels with pig iron or puddled bars, or, perhaps, like the Dutchmen, leave his anchor at home for safety. He did not thank the Government for taking off this iniquitous tax. They were compelled to do it by the overwhelming pressure brought to bear from the mercantile community, as well as from the members of the House from the Maritime Provinces. Yes, they had to do it, and he was pleased to see the unanimity with which the people of the Maritime Provinces condemned the Ministry on this particular, although their representatives in the Ministry were willing to swallow the impost. He (Mr. Domville) proceeded in a humorous manner to show the Finance Minister's utter ignorance of the shipping trade, and attributed the proposed tax on this interest to his incompetency.

Passing on to the 10 per cent to be imposed on machinery, he would illustrate how trade was deranged by these vexatious tariff alterations. He mentioned the fact that a new manufacturing firm in Nova Scotia would import $200,000 worth of machinery this year. On this a tax of 10 per cent was placed, which would amount on the importation to $20,000, or equivalent to the capital of a small manufacturing company. Could it be expected that capitalists from abroad would invest their means in this country when subject to the caprices of any incoming Ministry? Would any of our own capitalists undertake to establish more factories or promote new industries, with the uncertain dread hanging over them that their business might at any moment be ruined by the want of knowledge on the part of a mere tyro in finance. (*Hear, hear.*)

He complained that puddled bars, which were raw material to many manufacturers, were taxed as high as manufactured iron. It was a direct blow at this manufacturing interest. He observed that six million and a half dollars' worth of railroad iron and fish plates were admitted free of duty, while the rolling mills, which could and should manufacture them, were obliged to pay a heavy tax on the raw material. There was also over half a million dollars' worth of wrought iron pipes admitted free, which also should be made in this country. He attributed this discrimination against our manufacturers to ignorance on the part of the Finance Minister.

In the article of molasses he again observed a discrimination against the Maritime Provinces. Two-thirds of the molasses imported into the Dominion were consumed by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. By examining the Trade Returns for 1873, it would be seen that New Brunswick imported 808,154 gallons, valued at twenty-four cents per gallon, which averaged a duty of six cents per gallon; Nova Scotia, 1,216,230 gallons, at a similar value and duty; Quebec, 1,433,242 gallons at a value of seventeen cents per gallon, or 4 1/4 cents duty (deducting from this one-fifth, or 286,648 gallons, which would give a value of twenty-four cents and six cents duty, as in the case of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, it would leave the valuation of fifteen cents, and a duty of 3 4/5 cents per gallon); Ontario, 102,362 gallons, valuation eighteen cents, and 4 1/2 cents duty.

From these figures it must be seen that the Lower Provinces paid nearly fifty per cent more duty on this article than Ontario and Quebec. The solution of this is that the Upper Canadians consume syrups instead of molasses, and the refiners must evade the duty of 7 3/10 cents per gallon as required by law by purchasing from a third party, and, as already shown, they only paid a duty of about four cents. This would indicate that the refiner must have a tremendous monopoly and the proof may be accepted from the fact that the duty on syrups amounts to between fourteen and fifteen cents per gallon, and consequently none is imported.

It is a strange fact that not one gallon of molasses for refining purposes was entered in Ontario and Quebec, where refiners exist, and of the whole Dominion only some few puncheons in Nova Scotia. He suggested there should be a uniform duty on molasses all over the Dominion.

He referred to the tax on sugars, and censured the Finance Minister for having brought in a tariff based on Dutch standards. As the Minister of Customs had stated from his place in the House that the Government were not aware what the relative quantities of the various classes imported into the Dominion for the past year were, and the hon. Minister of Finance had not even the slightest conception of what Dutch standards were, and the Government in none of its departments were in possession of a set of standards, how was it possible to frame a tariff when the whole Ministry were ignorant of the system of grading sugars?

As the tariff was hostile to the consumer in the Lower Provinces, and imposed a heavier burden in the shape of duty, whilst in the Upper Provinces it protected the refiner from foreign importations, it would surely seem that this tariff was framed in the interests of refiners, if not by them, in this particular.

There was also another curious fact with regard to sugar—what was entered as under No. 9 Dutch standard for refining purposes in Quebec was valued at 4 1/4 cents per lb., paying a duty of 1 4/5 cents per lb., while it is an undisputed fact that this class of sugar was considerably under that price. The only inference that could be drawn was that sugar for table use had been entered at the lower or refining duty. This was again hard on the Maritime Provinces, as the value of sugar consumed by them was laid at $5.75 per 100 lbs., or nearly 2 1/2 cents duty per lb. It would seem as if there was a fraud somewhere.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: Question, question.

Mr. DOMVILLE: Of course this is uninteresting to the hon. member for Bruce South, as he does not know much about the subject.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: And I'm not learning anything.

Mr. DOMVILLE: And you never will. (*Roars of laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: Do the people of New Brunswick live on molasses?

Mr. DOMVILLE: No, but I've been led to believe that those in Prince Edward Island live on codfish.

Someone here insinuated that Hon. Mr. Laird was a loose fish. (*Roars of laughter.*)

Mr. DOMVILLE said he had no doubt the Minister of Finance, after sleeping over this tariff, would conclude to take the tax off puddled bars, as he had removed it from pig iron. He was surprised that the Minister of Customs, who was an iron merchant and also interested in a nail factory, should aid in framing a tariff which would place a duty of only five per cent on manufactured iron, while the manufacturers of New Brunswick were compelled to pay the same on the raw material.

In concluding, it gave him great pleasure to find that the Ministry had consented in some measure, although not as fully as he could have wished, to meet the objections of the public and to bring in the amended tariff, and he trusted ere long he would come to the determination to increase the free list still further. (*Cheers.*)

UNIDENTIFIED LIBERAL SPEAKER: He firmly believed that the Government intended to do what was right and fair to this Dominion. The increase of taxation was a difficult subject to deal with, and while he admitted that it was open to gentlemen on the opposite side of the House to criticise freely both this and every other measure of the Government, as he supposed he would do himself were he in their places, yet he could not help thinking that from the present appearance of the finances of this country their criticism should be tempered with a great deal of moderation. He complimented the Minister of Finance upon the clear, explicit, and able statement he had made of the financial position of this country, from which he had himself been able to satisfy his own mind as to our condition.

In reply to the onslaught of the hon. member for Cumberland, he had to reply that he did not believe the people of the great Province of Ontario had any intention to impose upon the people of the smaller Provinces. (*Hear, hear.*) Let hon. gentlemen put the matter as they might, there was no denying that the smaller Provinces had been the cause of taxing the larger ones to an enormous extent. It might have been necessary to do so. It might not be a disadvantage to the larger Provinces in the long run, but at least it was not for the smaller Provinces to talk of sectionalism on the matter. (*Hear, hear.*)

He believed that the tariff proposed by the Government was a just and fair one, as discriminating between contending claims and interests; and he repudiated the idea that the financial statement of Mr. Cartwright would injure our credit in the mother country or any other part of the world. Capitalists did not refuse to credit honest men—(*cheers*)—men who were careful and truthful, and stated their position fairly and fearlessly. In conclusion, he said he considered that when the Government made provisions for the appropriations of their predecessors there would be but little left for their own. (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. WALKER said he differed from the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) in the opinion he expressed as to the motives which influenced the Government in bringing down the amendment to the tariff which they had done. He thought they deserved and would receive the commendation of the country for making the proposed changes in answer to the voice of those experienced in the trade and commerce of the country, who had given expression to the details of the tariff, without interfering with the principle laid down by the Government in its general scope.

He asked the indulgence of the House to allow him to correct a statement of the hon. member for Cumberland. That gentleman had, in a previous stage of this debate, said he knew that the present Government were in collusion with the Northern Pacific Railway of the United States, and that they jointly opposed the scheme for raising money in England by the delegation of Directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway, of which he was one. This he desired to give a distinct denial to. (*Cheers.*) He saw no sign of collusion directly or indirectly between the present Government and the Northern Pacific Railway. (*Hear, hear.*) The opposition which the delegation met with was organized by the Grand Trunk and carried on by them, their reason being that Sir Hugh Allan was the controlling spirit in the North Shore and Montreal Northern Colonization Railways, and that these lines would be made the eastern connection of the Pacific, to the exclusion of the Grand Trunk. (*Hear, hear.*) He would reserve his remarks on the tariff and the Government scheme for building the Pacific Railway till another occasion.

Mr. GILLMOR said that it had been stated that all that was required to bind this Dominion into one great harmonious whole was the construction of an iron band across the continent. While he was in all respects favourable to the construction of that railway as soon as the country could afford it, he took entire exception to the statement he had just quoted. Something more was wanted to bind this Dominion harmoniously together. After seven years of Confederation, he confessed to a very great surprise at the little unity existing between the representatives of the different Provinces in this House.

He had himself been opposed to Confederation, but since it was an accomplished fact, no man had more zealously laboured in his own sphere for its success than he had. (*Hear, hear.*) But the union which he expected and decided to see had not yet taken place, principally he conceived, as the result of the iniquitous system of setting Province against Province and favouring a spirit of jealousy and sectionalism, initiated for party purposes by the late Government. (*Hear, hear.*) Never until the members of this House ceased to make a point of telling how much sugar and molasses were used in New Brunswick and how much shipping materials in Nova Scotia—as compared to Ontario or Quebec—would there be that union for which we all longed.

He had always felt himself that the hon. gentlemen now in power had the ability, the intelligence, and patriotism which would enable

them to govern this country well, and he now found that he had not been deceived. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. PATERSON said he quite approved of the tariff as proposed by the Government, which he thought would be acceptable to the country generally. There was just one alteration which he desired to see made. The manufacturers of all classes of goods except cigars were protected by a 17 1/2 per cent tariff, while the manufacturers of cigars were put off with a 7 1/2 per cent tariff. He believed the tariff would give great satisfaction to the country whether this change were made or not, but he thought that upon grounds of expediency and fair play one particular interest should not be dealt with in an exceptionally liberal way. He wanted no protection; the terms were as offensive to him as to anybody else. What he wanted was fair play, and the cigar manufacturers, of whom he was not ashamed to say that he was one, placed on the same footing as others. (*Applause.*)

At one o'clock,

Mr. PALMER rose to move the adjournment of the House, but

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE insisted on the measure passing another stage.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL protested against the debate being carried on at such a late hour, when the previous night they had been equally late, but

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that hon. gentlemen would have opportunities of speaking certainly at two and most likely at three stages, and, as it had already been discussed at this stage two nights, both the Government and the House wished it to pass a stage.

Mr. PALMER said this was the proper stage for debate, and however late it was, he was determined to present his grievances. In the first place he did not think it had been proved that there was a deficit in the last year of revenue. He ridiculed the opinion of the member for Charlotte (Mr. Gillmor) that the Government was perfectly right in all its doings, and contended that the tariff, which he criticised very narrowly, bore very heavily and in undue proportion on the Maritime Provinces.

Mr. RYAN, who was continually interrupted by the unconcealed gapes and yawns of the member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon), said the Finance Minister had told them he was going to increase the duties from 15 to 17 1/2 per cent, and to raise the duties on tea, and what was more objectionable to the country, he was going to raise the duty on sugar. During the course of his remarks, he referred to the late Government in regard to their policy on the Pacific Railway.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, **Mr. PERRY** in the chair, and reported the resolutions as amended.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**

The House adjourned at 2.20 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 1, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Mr. De VEBER presented a petition against the duty on shipbuilding materials.

Mr. ROSS (Durham East) presented one for protection to manufacturers.

A few petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. CHARLTON presented a petition from John Marsland and 130 others, farmers and inhabitants of the County of Norfolk, setting forth the desirability of protection to home manufacturers, and the creation thereby of a home market for agricultural produce; also setting forth the illiberal policy of the United States towards the producing classes of Canada, and praying that the same rates of duty be imposed by the Canadian Government upon American products and manufacturers as are imposed by the American Government upon corresponding products and manufacturers of Canada.

* * *

REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the second report of the Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, reporting the Marine Electric Telegraph Company's bill and that of the Lochiel, Hawkesbury and L'Orignal Junction Railway Company.

Mr. RYMAL presented the seventh report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Mr. PICKARD—To incorporate the Saint John Bridge and Railway Company.

Mr. MacLENNAN—To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada.

Mr. MacLENNAN—To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)—To amend an Act for the organization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries of Canada.

THE FISHERIES ACT

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution declaring it expedient to extend the Fisheries Act, 31 Vic., Cap. 60, to British Columbia and Prince Edward Island. It was desirable to extend the Act to every part of the Dominion. It was not intended that the Act should go into operation until so declared by proclamation of the Governor in Council.

The House went into Committee.

Mr. De COSMOS objected to the Act being extended to British Columbia at this time. The bill, as at present, would be rather prejudicial than otherwise to British Columbia, as its fisheries were but in their infancy, and the operation of the law would be the reverse of favourable. He hoped the Hon. Minister would not now press it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the Act would not go into operation at once. It merely gave power to the Governor in Council to extend the Fisheries Act when he saw fit. The Government would listen to any representations which might be made.

The resolution was adopted and reported, and concurred in, and a Bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

* * *

MONTREAL PORT WARDEN

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the House went into Committee on the resolutions regarding the office of Port Warden of Montreal, which having been passed, a bill based on them was introduced. The bill was explained to give the Port Warden power in certain cases to dispense with the lining of vessels.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. Mr. LAIRD moved that the House go into Committee on Tuesday on the following resolution: That it is expedient to amend the Dominion Lands Act, 35 Vic., Cap. 23, and to provide that the Governor in Council may issue scrip redeemable only by its receipt in payment for Dominion lands, and may direct that claims to grants of Dominion lands may be satisfied either in lands or in scrip, and to confirm certain Orders in Council heretofore made authorizing the issue of such scrip in commutation of certain rights of common and of cutting hay, and to amend certain other provisions and supply certain omissions of detail in the said Act, and to authorize the Governor in Council to make a tariff of fees for copies of maps and other documents from the Surveyor General's office.

THE TARIFF

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means be received.—Carried.

On motion for the second reading of the resolutions,

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that looking at the facts of the case, the power of the Government, etc., it would be only a waste of time to oppose these resolutions. He was glad that the resolutions had been modified but regretted that they had not gone a little further. The results arrived at had been influenced in a great measure by the moral power of the little band on this side of the House.

He entered his protest against the statement of the Minister of Finance that his increased taxation had been caused by the late government. The arguments of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had in no way been answered. These were—first, that there was no necessity for additional taxation; second, that no extra taxation had been necessitated by the late Government; and third, that the tariff had not been imposed in the best way it could be. Upon these points he heartily concurred with the hon. member for Cumberland.

He deprecated the duty on shipbuilding, and also that on tea. He then proceeded to contend that the Finance Minister had in this particular especially discriminated against the poor man, and by removing but half of the duty on black tea as compared with green, had discriminated in favour of Western Canada as against the Maritime Provinces. Were the imports equally distributed when they were taken off silks and satins, and left on the articles of more common wear? He was glad that some little consideration had been shown to the shipbuilding trade, but he thought the same consideration should be shown to the canvas and cordage used by the poor fishermen.

The course which had been pursued by this House in forcing a Government fresh from the elections to fall back upon the tariff of their predecessor was a great testimony in favour of the preceding Administration. He felt bold to say that, had his colleagues remained in power, no additional duties would have been levied, as there was no necessity for them. He protested against these additional imposts, which would be laid on by the Government by the mere force of their support, as well as against the manner in which they had attempted to justify their conduct by laying the blame upon the Government which had preceded them.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) described Hon. Mr. Tupper as what was generally known as colour-blind. The hon. member failed last year to see there was anything wrong in the Pacific Scandal transaction—a transaction which the whole world condemned, for which Canadians had to hang their heads in shame. Now the hon. gentleman was not able to see that there would be a deficit which he considered made little difference as things were now, but which would have been rather an unfortunate thing had the hon. member been the Minister of Finance.

He repudiated the idea that the statement of the Minister of Finance had injured our credit in the mother country, and declared that it came with an ill grace from the mouth of the hon. member for Cumberland, who, with his colleagues and accomplices, had done their best only a year ago to trail the honour and moral and financial reputation of the country in the dust. He considered the changes proposed by the Government in the tariff as manly and straightforward, and they would meet, in his opinion, the requirements of the whole country and all the different interests.

Resolutions 1 to 5 were then read a second time, as follows:—

1. That it is expedient to amend the Act 31 Vic., Cap. 44, and other Acts amending the same, and the tariff of duties and Customs contained in the schedules annexed to the said Acts.

2. That it is expedient to repeal so much of the schedule A as imposes any specific duty of Customs on cigars or spirits and strong waters, and to substitute for such duties the specific duties mentioned in the next following resolution.

3. That it is expedient to impose on the several articles hereinafter mentioned the specific and *ad valorem* duties of Customs set opposite to each respectively, viz., cigars per lb., 70 cents; tea, green or Japan, per lb., 4 cents; tea black, per lb., 3 cents; coffee, green, per lb., 2 cents; spirits and strong waters, viz., not having been sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength thereof cannot be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, for every gallon of the strength of proof by such hydrometer and so in proportion for any less strength than the strength of proof, and for every greater or less quantity than a gallon, namely, brandy, Geneva alcohol, rum, gin (including Old Tom), whisky, and unenumerated articles like kind, per gallon, $1.00; other spirits, being sweetened or mixed so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained, as aforesaid, namely, rum shrub, cordials, tafia, Schiedam schnapps, bitters, and unenumerated articles of like kind, per gallon, $1.50; cologne water and perfumed spirits not in flasks, per gallon, $1.50; cologne water and perfumed spirits when in flasks or bottles not weighing more than four ounces, for each flask or bottle, five cents, unenumerated spirits and strong waters, $1.50; spirits and strong waters imported into Canada, mixed with any ingredient or ingredients, and although thereby coming under the denomination of proprietary medicines, tinctures, essences, extracts, or any denomination, shall be nevertheless deemed spirits or strong waters, and subject to a duty as such. Fruits preserved in brandy or other spirits, per gallon, $1.50.

4. That it is expedient to amend schedule B, annexed to the said Act, by adding the following articles to the list of goods paying 10 per centum *ad valorem,* viz., locomotive engine frames, axles, cranks, hoop iron or steel for tires of wheels, bent and welded crank axles, piston rods, guide and slide bars, crank pins, and connecting rods, machinery for mills, etc., not manufactured in the Dominion.

On resolution five, which is as follows:—That it is expedient to amend the said schedule B by adding the following articles to the list of goods paying five per centum *ad valorem*: ships' materials, viz.:—binnacle lamps; blocks and patent bushes for blocks; bunting; compasses; dead eyes; dead lights; deck plugs; iron knees; pumps and pump gear; iron riders; shackles; sheaves; signal lamps; steering apparatus; travelling trucks; wedges; cables (hemp or grass); cordage; sail cloth or canvass; varnish (black and bright); iron (scraps and galvanized); puddled bars; blooms and billets (puddled or not puddled); bolts and spikes (galvanized); wire.

The resolutions were then read and concurred *in seriatim*.

Upon section 6, in answer to **Mr. DOMVILLE,** were two kinds of pure iron, of which kinds had a 5 per cent tax, but that the old tariff had been pretty closely followed with regard to that article.

Mr. PALMER objected to the levying of a tax on shipbuilding, which he contended was perfectly unnecessary. The Finance Minister had said very justly that the taxes should be fairly raised and distributed over the whole country. That was a principle in which the smaller Provinces were particularly interested, because when they went into Confederation each Province had certain interests and certain revenues of its own district apart from the general federation.

He could prove that the Province which he represented paid much higher taxes in proportion to the rest of the Dominion than any other Province whatever, and he protested against the shipbuilding interest being struck at. The inhabitants of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick paid fifteen and seventeen times more than the inhabitants of Ontario, and he thought the Maritime Provinces, whose marine ranked next to that of England and the United States, should not be so over-taxed in this, their particular interest. He showed the injustice of the tariff as pressing upon the inhabitants of New Brunswick, which he contended would check that industry, especially in the city of St. John, to such an extent as to draw $95,000 from the Province; and he concluded by saying that it would be better to encourage the trade, instead of discouraging it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the hon. gentleman two or three times during his speech protested against this tariff, and more particularly against the duty upon shipping material. He (Hon. Mr. Smith), coming from a country remarkable for its shipbuilding material resources, having himself a considerable interest in the business and having many of his friends engaged in it, wished it to be distinctly understood that he raised his voice in this House in favour of the proposed tariff. He did not desire to shirk any responsibility in the matter, and he could not if he did. He was quite prepared to take all the responsibility attaching to his position as a member of the Government in this matter. (*Hear.*) He was perfectly prepared to go back to his constituents and to his Province, not the "poor little Province" which it was represented to be by the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Palmer) (*Hear, hear*) and take the whole responsibility of the impost.

He deprecated the representation of the Province in the pitiable light which the hon. member had endeavoured to do. He desired that he had found no disposition on the part of the representative of the larger Provinces to do injustice to the small Provinces. On the contrary, he had formerly found them ready to do them simple justice and since becoming a member of the Government he could make the statement with the fullest confidence. He could further tell hon. gentlemen that the moment he ceased to get what he considered just to his own Province, that moment would he cease to be a member of the Government. As yet he had not been asked to take anything less. (*Cheers.*)

He compared the position of the shipbuilders and ship-owners of the Province with the farmers and other classes who consumed large amounts of taxed goods, and showed that if any portion of the community could afford to pay duties it was the shipping men. Theirs was the richest and most prosperous interest in the country, and he failed to see why the poor man should be taxed and the rich man allowed to go free. He further showed that such duties had been imposed in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick before Confederation, and also the shipping community had to pay a tax in those days for lighting. For the remission of the latter duty he gave his predecessor great credit.

He pointed to the hundreds of thousands of dollars which had been spent on lighthouses since Confederation, and which was still being spent, all for the protection and safety of ships, to a very great extent the ships of the Maritime Provinces, and he warned his hon. friends from the seaboard that they entirely failed in their duty to their constituencies, their Provinces and the Dominion generally if they attempted to set up sectionalism and to harp upon one string as they had been doing.

He expressed himself as highly pleased with the remarks made last night by the hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. Gillmor) of whom he predicted that he would yet hold a high place in the estimation of the House, and whose intimate knowledge of the House and whose intimate knowledge of the subject gave his utterances a considerable amount of weight. During the coming year, $120,000 would be spent upon lighthouses, a large proportion of which would be spent in the Lower Provinces for the benefit of the shipping interest.

The hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) held that there was no necessity for the increase in taxation, and that there would be no deficit. That was the strangest and most inexplicable contention he (Hon. Mr. Smith) had ever heard. There was nothing more obnoxious to the people than an increase of taxation, and it was not at all likely that the Government would incur the obloquy of increasing it unless the public burdens actually required it. Common sense said "no" when such a question was raised.

His hon. friend, the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright), had last year predicted that there would be a deficiency, and there could be no question as to the truth of the prophecy. The question then was, if there was a deficiency, how was it to be provided for. The tariff, as modified by his hon. friend, was one which the country would be glad to welcome. Of course, hon. gentlemen opposite would challenge it. As the opponents of the Government, they would oppose anything the Government proposed. But whatever modification the Finance Minister has made, he had made in deference to the opinions, not of the opponents of the Government, but of their friends.

He concluded by asserting that, in his own opinion, the resolutions now before the House would obtain the approbation of the great majority, not only of the members of this House, but of the people of the country generally. (*Loud cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL, on his own behalf, repudiated the charge of sectionalism made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and challenged any man to point to any act of his, during the time he was connected with the administration of the public affairs of this country, which would bear that construction.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said he had charged the hon. member for Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) with sectionalism in his remarks of today on the tariff.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL denied that he was an opponent of the Government, but he asserted that he would not have the spirit of a man if he could sit in his place and listen to such charges against himself and his colleagues in the Government as were advanced by the Minister of Finance, and not reply to them. The only thing he had said which could be at all construed into sectionalism—and then that required some stretching first—was when he pointed out the discrimination between the duty on black and green tea, and he thought that in this respect, whether his remarks were sectional or not, at least they had the merit of being true.

The hon. gentleman (Hon. Mr. Smith) had said that the shipbuilding industry was the most prosperous in the country, but did he not remember the period of twenty years when this industry had proved more disastrous to the people than any other? No one would deny that it was an interest which was surrounded by great hazards, et cetera, which had many disastrous results. In the last few years it had been prosperous, and a great deal of money had been made out of it. What had been done for that interest in this country? The hon. gentleman referred them to the lighthouses, but he would ask him if the Great Lakes did not get an equal benefit.

He had not intended to address the House again on that subject but he would have been less than a man if he had listened to the statements of the hon. gentleman who had so unjustly assaulted the members of the late Administration without rising and declaring an injustice.

Hon. Mr. COFFIN believed the shipping interest to be not only able but willing to pay their proper share of the expense of the country. He denied that the tax on ship materials was excessive, and said that he believed the tariff would meet with general approval. Instead of it having been a "back down" on the part of the Government in having altered some of the terms of the tariff, he thought it resounded very much to the credit of the Government in having taken the advice of the people.

Mr. FORBES admitted that he was pleased and gratified that the Government had amended their tariff; but he must say that, with regard to the tax on shipbuilding materials, after having exhausted every private effort to induce the Government to change this measure, he had to come before the House and oppose it.

He looked upon the shipping interest of the Dominion as a manufacturing interest, and, if it was necessary to make a tariff to collect revenue, no one interest should be held up against another. He did not blame the shipbuilding tax, but said that it did not bear equally with other interests. The impost could be borne, but it would not be satisfactory on the ground that he had given. In Nova Scotia they were building large numbers of ships and when it was considered that 100,000 tons were built in Nova Scotia by a population of 380,000, it would be seen how heavily the tax fell. He was sorry to see that sectional legislation had entered into the affairs of Canada, which had never happened before. If this thing must go on, our shipping would be driven from the ocean, as had been the case with the United States.

The people of Nova Scotia had never hesitated to pay their taxes; but the low, muttering grumbles which came up from his Province showed that they were not satisfied. The amount of the impost was not much, but the principle was wrong, and, if continued, would produce a festering sore which would be long in healing. He thought it fortunate that the elections had taken place in January instead of in February; otherwise the result would have been different.

Mr. DOMVILLE concurred in the remarks of the hon. member for Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell). He had been sent here to do the best he could, and to give the Government a fair support in all good measures; but this he considered a sectional measure, and it was, therefore, his duty to raise his voice against it. He complimented the Government upon having modified their tariff, but it still needed the pruning knife.

The SPEAKER informed the House that a message had been received from the Senate, announcing the passage of the Bill to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, without amendment.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Private Bills were read a third time and passed:—

To incorporate the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Company—**Mr. COCKBURN**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate La Banque d'Hochelaga—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Confederation Life Association—**Mr. YOUNG**.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

The following Private Bills were read a second time:—

To incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Company—**Mr. MASSON**.

Respecting the Federal Bank of Canada—**Mr. KIRKPATRICK**.

To incorporate the Provincial Steamship Company—**Mr. DOMVILLE**.

* * *

THE TARIFF

The debate on the tariff was then resumed.

Mr. GILLMOR said it was a mistake to say that the shipping interest had no duty to pay before Confederation. There was an

impost of 3 per cent on all materials for shipbuilding before Confederation.

Mr. PALMER said he believed that the duty was not repealed up to Confederation. If they came to make comparisons based on population, he thought it would be equally fair for the Ontario members to take the same ground in reference to appropriations. He found that for lighthouses and their maintenance, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with a population of 600,000, had received appropriations amounting to $235,000, while Ontario and Quebec, with 2,800,000 people, had received $221,700. It was creditable to the larger Provinces that they refrained from making these useless comparisons.

Before Confederation the shipping interest was taxed for light dues. In Nova Scotia in 1866, $37,000 was collected from this source; $28,000 in New Brunswick; $2,000 in Quebec—in all $67,000, an amount which he was satisfied would cover all that would be paid under this tax. He was satisfied that it was not for the general good that this interest should be relieved from this small tax. It was a rather political move on the part of hon. gentlemen opposite. This interest was one which must always draw largely upon the revenues of the Dominion, and he hoped this Parliament would be always as ready as in the past to grant aid for the protection of their extensive seaboard. He did not consider the proposal of the Finance Minister an unreasonable demand. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. NORRIS contended that the basis of the tariff was satisfactory. Ontario was fairly satisfied, and he believed from conversations with hon. members that the bulk of the people of the Lower Provinces were satisfied. Hon. gentlemen had spoken of their sails whitening every ocean, and he was sure that that interest was well able to pay something to the public revenue. He wanted to have no injustice to anyone, and should be one of the first to protest against any such action. He deprecated sectional appeals, such as had been made by some of the hon. members, saying that with these we could not hope to have that peace and harmony which should exist.

As to the flour trade, in which he was interested, we had no protection, and if he asked for it he knew the Maritime Provinces would object. He advocated some protection to our agricultural interests, and for the development of our great mineral resources. He felt that some action should be taken before very long to utilize all that wealth, which now lay buried in the bosom of the earth. He trusted that before next session some action would be taken in this direction, as without protection capitalists would not come and invest their money among us.

Mr. DAVIES believed the people of the Maritime Provinces would object to this tax. Everything which entered into the manufactures of Canada was exempted from duty, and the people of the Maritime Provinces would look upon this as a special tax upon them. If they wanted increased revenue, as no doubt they did, the tax should be put on articles of general consumption. Canada was now the third maritime power in the world, but this shipping interest was one which every country fostered, and its prosperity was no reason why it should be taxed. He regretted that any feeling should be raised that there was class legislation.

He thought the Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had overestimated the amount to be paid to the Island of Prince Edward. The people of that Island had been very reluctant to come into the Union, but he had always been in favour of it, though he did not see any great commercial advantage to be derived from it. His views on that subject had cost him his seat in the Local Legislature two or three times, and he believed he was the only Unionist from Prince Edward Island in this House.

The revenue from all sources in the Island in 1872 was $385,000. Deducting $80,000, which, under Confederation would belong to the Local Government, the revenue left for the Dominion Government was about $305,000. An allowance of $900,000 was to be made for the settlement of land claims representing interest to the amount of $45,000 a year. Under the 80 cents a head, $15,000 would have to be paid. There was an annual allowance of $30,000, and these, with other items, amounted to about $230,000, showing a surplus of $70,000. The taxes under the Dominion tariff were 30 or 40 per cent greater than under the local tariff, so that when the present tariff was applied there would be a larger surplus, amounting, he expected, to $150,000. (*Hear, hear.*) It was true there was the railway, but he ridiculed the idea that it would cost $200,000 a year to operate. If it did it had better be presented to the Local Government.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT: Does my hon. friend think we can get the Local Government to take it?

Mr. DAVIES thought there would be very little difficulty in doing so. The revenue of the Island had increased from $110,000 in 1858 to $385,000 in 1872. The revenue was progressive, while the allowance from the Dominion was almost stationary, and the time would soon come when the "Garden Plot" would be no burden to the Dominion. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. OLIVER said he had listened with a great deal of pleasure to the speech of the hon. member for Cumberland, when endeavouring to prove that there would be no deficit, but thought the hon. gentleman had not proved his assertions. He thought it was in the interest of all sections and all classes of the country that the great public works which had been undertaken should be gone on with, as it was evident from what railways had done for the country that they would do very much to promote its prosperity.

With reference to shipbuilding, he said that if it could be shown that the proposed tax on that important industry would cripple it, that tax should not be imposed. All the interests of the country were so intimately connected that, he believed, if one suffered all the others also did. He did not think the tax on tea was to be complained of, because he did not believe it would make a difference of a dollar a year to a moderate sized family.

Perhaps it was too late to make any alteration in the duty on cigars, but he thought that the producers of these luxuries did not receive fair play. It was not to be expected that Canada, with its dear labour, could compete in the production of cigars with Germany and its cheap labour, and cigars were a luxury which

could well bear a higher tax. With reference to the proposal to put a tax on Indian corn coming into the country, he said he thought that to do this would be to inflict an injury on the farmers of the country, for this grain was imported not so much for distillery purposes as for feeding the cattle of our farmers.

He believed the new tariff would give great satisfaction in the part of the country from which he came, and he had great pleasure in saying that it had his most cordial support.

Mr. PLUMB thought the Government should endeavour to rouse the patriotism of the female portion of the country, so that the ladies would hoist their petticoats for flags, and come to their aid in raising a revenue. (*Laughter.*) He commented on the unpopularity of the tariff, as evidenced by the speeches of such a number of hon. gentlemen on the Ministerial benches.

Mr. ORTON, in a long speech, advocated more protection for the farmers.

Mr. KILLAM thought the ship owners of the Province he represented were quite as patriotic and quite as able to pay their share of taxes as any other class in the country. (*Hear, hear.*) He represented the largest shipbuilding county in the Province. In 1840 that county owned 10,000 tons of shipping; in 1850 it owned 17,000 tons; in 1860, 36,000 tons; in 1870, 80,000 tons, and at the commencement of the present year, about 111,000 tons. (*Hear, hear.*) These increases had taken place under all sorts of tariffs, and under all sorts of political machinery. It was reasonable inference, therefore, that the shipping interest was steadily prospering and he had no doubt that it would continue to do so in the future. He was aware that when their tariff was first introduced, some dissatisfaction would be created by it among the ship owners of the Lower Provinces, but he did not consider this exceptional taxation. (*Hear, hear.*)

He was prepared to say that the small tax which now remained on shipping, about 33 cents a ton, or perhaps one half per cent on the value of the ship, would not be considered a burden. The ship-owners were quite willing to bear their share of the taxes, and if it should turn out that the deficit was not as large as it was expected to be, and that there was a little to the good, they would of course like to have their share of it.

Mr. McLEOD congratulated the Government on their tariff, and said that the taxes on shipping had been reduced to 15 cents a ton instead of what the last speaker had said, and therefore the people in the Maritime Provinces had every reason to be thankful to the present Government. (*Hear, hear.*)

He thought the question of the degrees of taxation on shipping material was not the point to be considered. He thought the question was whether such an industry as this should be taxed at all. (*Hear, hear.*) They should bear in mind that the tax on shipbuilding material was almost nothing—the increase in building of ships had been very great, and they all knew, especially in New Brunswick, that when shipbuilding was carried on to a great extent, there was no trade which increased the consumption of dutiable goods as much. It was therefore to the interest of the Government to leave that industry as free as possible, for while, by not taxing it, they would lose a little on the one hand, they would more than made the loss up on the other. (*Hear, hear.*)

He alluded to the charges of sectionalism made against the hon. member for Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) and said if there was any gentleman opposed to sectionalism, it was the hon. member for Northumberland, who had done his utmost in this direction in regard to the alignment of the Intercolonial Railway. For his part he should support the new tariff with all his heart.

Mr. GOUDGE said that the member for Yarmouth (Mr. Killam) had stated that he represented the greatest shipbuilding county in Nova Scotia. He (Mr. Goudge) was proud to say that he represented the second greatest. At the commencement of the year his county had 93,000 tons of shipping. This year the shipbuilders were adding 20,000 tons to that. (*Hear, hear.*)

He had not learned the opinion of his constituents with regard to the new tariff, but he thought the Government had acted wisely in taking the tax off materials entering into shipbuilding. The industry of shipbuilding was prosperous enough now, but they should have in view the fact that there was a great rivalry in the business springing up again in the United States.

With reference to the new tariff generally, he thought that the Finance Minister had shown a great deal of wisdom in putting the country in such a light as would enable the Government to go into the markets of the world and borrow any money they required for their necessities and cause those to whom they applied to feel confidence in the country. (*Hear, hear.*) He praised the foresight of the Minister in providing for possible contingencies, and concluded by expressing his intention to support the tariff.

All the remaining resolutions then passed.

The Committee then rose and reported, and the amendments to the resolutions were concurred in.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT then introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, and the Bill was read a first time.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER announced that he had received a message from the Senate, informing the House that it had passed the Bill with reference to Criminal Justice in New Brunswick, and asking concurrence in the same.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS IN MANITOBA

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**, the House went into committee on the resolutions respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion lands in Manitoba. [*The resolutions have already been published.*]

In reply to Hon. Mr. Tupper,

Hon. Mr. LAIRD explained that the resolutions would not in any way affect the rights of settlers to lands lying outside the old settlers' claims.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk), in reply to Hon. Mr. Mitchell, expressed his approval of the resolutions, which he said would meet the views of the people of the Northwest.

The resolutions having been passed,

Hon. Mr. LAIRD introduced a bill founded upon them, which was read a first time.

* * *

SUPPLY

On motion of the **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** the House then went into Committee of Supply, **Mr. SCATCHERD** in the Chair.

The following items were passed, after some discussion:—

Under the head of Lighthouse and Coast Service,

Salaries and Allowances of Lighthouse Keepers, $142,330

Maintenance and repairs, $262,000

Construction of new Lighthouses, $120,000

Total for Lighthouse service, $524,930. With regard to this service,

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he would sanction his successor in any expenditure under this head that the finances would warrant. He believed their system was so far behind England and the United States that it should be developed to its utmost extent.

On item of $62,185 under the head of Fisheries,

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the Government intended soon to establish a uniform system for the fisheries of all Provinces.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he had intended, when Minister of Marine and Fisheries, to assimilate, as far as circumstances would permit, the fishery laws of the different Provinces, but he thought the Hon. Minister should be careful in any attempt he might make to establish a completely uniform system for the different Provinces, where the circumstances were so totally different. There was a danger that in some of the Provinces riparian rights would be overlooked.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE requested the hon. gentleman to explain the difference in the circumstances.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said the property holders of the Eastern Provinces held riparian rights, while in Quebec and Ontario those rights had been vested in the Government before Confederation.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE held that the riparian rights were the same in all the Provinces. It was quite true that extra claims had been made by the property holders of the Maritime Provinces, but they had no legal existence, and had received no legal recognition.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said if the hon. gentleman consulted the officers of the Department he would find he was mistaken.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said it was true the people of the Eastern Provinces had the right of use to these fisheries, but he had made a great deal of enquiry into this matter, and he had been unable to find that any legal right existed in the matter.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said some of these rights were conveyed by the Treaty of Quebec from the King of France, and this Parliament dare not invade them.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said his information was otherwise. He assured the House, however, that there need be no apprehension that he would introduce any measure which would interfere with vested rights.

After some further discussion upon this point, the item was carried.

Under the head of Geological Surveys and Observations, the following items were passed: Observatory, Quebec, $2,400; Toronto, $4,800; Kingston, $500; Montreal, $500; Halifax, (revote); $1,500; New Brunswick, $850. Grant for meteorological observatories, including instruments and cost of telegraphing weather warnings, et cetera, $37,000. Total, $47,550.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL contended that the sum of $37,000 for meteorological observatories was too small to carry out the work efficiently.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the matter was worthy of consideration, but he did not feel justified in asking for an increased sum this year.

Mr. WILKES called attention to the inadequacy of the building at Toronto under the charge of Professor Kingston.

Mr. KILLAM said better telegraph communication between Toronto and the Lower Provinces was necessary to make the storm signals of any service.

Under the head of Marine Hospitals and sick and distressed seamen, the following items:—Marine and Immigrant Asylum, Quebec, $22,000; Montreal General Hospital, $3,000; other ports in Quebec, $2,000. St. Catherines Hospital, $500; Kingston Hospital, $500. Halifax General Hospital, $4,000; other ports in Nova Scotia, $10,000. Hospital at St. John, $5,000; other ports in New Brunswick, $6,000. Ports in British Columbia, $3,000; and ports in Prince Edward Island, $1,500. Expenses of shipwrecked and disabled seamen:—Province of Quebec, $1,000; Nova Scotia, $3,500; New Brunswick, $2,000; British Columbia, $500; Prince Edward Island, $500. To reimburse Board of Trade, London, for expenses incurred in connection with shipwrecked and distressed seamen of the Dominion, $10,000. Total $75,000.

Under the head of steamboat inspection was voted a sum of $14,200, and under that of Indians were passed the following items:—

For Indians—Quebec, $1,250. Purchasing blankets for aged and infirm Indians of Ontario and Quebec, $1,600. Indians, Nova Scotia, $4,500. Indians, New Brunswick, $4,500. Payment of annuities under treaty No. 1, $14,425. Payment of annuities under treaty No. 2, $4,355. Provisions for Indians assembled to receive above annuities, $13,000.

Agricultural implements and farming stock to be furnished under treaties No. 1 and No. 2, $16,000. Share of payment of annuities under treaty No. 3, $19,360. Agricultural implements under treaty No. 3, $10,000. Ammunition and twine under treaty No. 3, $1,500. Probable expenses in connection with the Indians of the Saskatchewan, $6,000; salaries and expenses, $22,610. Probable expenses in connection with the Indians of British Columbia, $25,000. Probable expenses in connection with the Indians in Prince Edward Island, $2,000. Miscellaneous expenditure, $3,000. Total $149,100.

On the item of $149,100 under the head of Indians,

Mr. SCHULTZ expressed the opinion that it was a step fraught with danger to send an armed force among the Indians before having treated with them.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the force was only going among the Indians as a friendly embassy to drive out troublesome persons. He did not think there was the slightest danger to be apprehended.

Mr. SCHULTZ said that was exactly the opinion entertained by the Minnesota Government before the massacre in that State, but as a result of the course of that Government they had been obliged to spend $20,000,000 in a war with the Indians.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the manner in which the British and Canadian Governments had always treated the Indians had been so different from that in which the Americans had dealt with them that there need be no fear of our having similar troubles with them to what the latter had had.

After a little further discussion, the item passed; as did also those under the heads of Boundary Surveys, $119,198, and Miscellaneous, $79,300.

Miscellaneous included the following items: *Canada Gazette*, $3,900; miscellaneous printing $5,000; expenses connected with the noon gun at Ottawa, $400.

Unforeseen expenses, expenditure thereof to be under Order in Council, and a detailed statement to be laid before Parliament during the first fifteen days of the next session, $50,000.

Commutation in lieu of remission of duties on articles imported for the use of the army and navy, $10,000.

Salaries and expenses of the council for the Northwest Territories, $5,000; miscellaneous expenses in the Northwest not otherwise provided for, $5,000. Total $79,300.

Under the head of "Customs" were passed the following:—In the Province of Ontario $209,628; Quebec, $190,216; New Brunswick, $88,046; Nova Scotia $107,659; Manitoba and Northwest Territories, $9,950; British Columbia $21,940; Prince Edward Island, $22,500. Salaries and travelling expenses of inspectors of ports, $11,000. Contingencies of head office covering printing, stationery, advertising, telegraphing, etc., for the several ports of entry, $15,000. To law appointments, prosecutions, et cetera, $10,000. Total $685,939.

On the last item, in answer to Mr. Wood (Hamilton),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that servants in the Customs were generally so inefficient that the only way it was intended to promote them was by promoting them out of the service. With regard to the statement made as to the Custom House officers at Montreal having taken an active part in the recent election, he might say it had never been brought to his knowledge, or he would have prohibited it.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said that he hoped the Premier would extend to Nova Scotia the same rule with regard to Dominion officials interfering in elections that was applied in Ontario. In the last general election everything was done to get these officials to vote for the member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper).

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the Premier last session moved a resolution in which he declared that it was a high crime for a Minister, directly or indirectly, to use the power of his office in influencing officials to vote for Government candidates, and now that his matter was brought up, he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would say that there never was a Minister in Canada who abused his position as that hon. gentleman had done.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Name an instance, I challenge the hon. gentleman to give an instance. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER went on to say that during the late Dominion elections the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) had said, at a public meeting in the Temperance Hall in that city, that if any official of the Government voted against him, it would be at his peril, and that Mr. Annand had come down there and said that he had just been at Ottawa and seen Mr. Mackenzie, and that gentleman had told him the same thing. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) contended that in the late elections the present Government had pursued a course quite the reverse of the policy the Premier laid down a year ago, when he held that every official should be as free as air with regard to elections.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the hon. gentleman had acquired a character beyond every man in this country for reckless, scandalous statements and villainous abuse of those opposed to him. (*Hear, hear.*) The hon. gentleman knew, when he said that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was willing that officials should take part in elections, that it was not correct. What he did was to condemn a Post Office Inspector who was endeavouring to coerce officials into voting for the Government candidate.

The hon. gentleman had stated, with the same characteristic recklessness, that there never was a Government that brought the power of office to bear so much on the electors as his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) Government did at the last election. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had challenged the hon. gentleman to prove an instance, and he had not attempted to do so, because he knew that his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) hands at least were clean. (*Hear, hear.*)

He knew that the Government published the intimation at a meeting in the Music Hall in Toronto that every public official was debarred from interfering with elections. That he had ever brought pressure to bear on a single officer was entirely and wholly untrue, and he dared the hon. gentleman or his friends to show an instance in which the powers of office had been used for such a purpose. (*Cheers.*)

With reference to the hon. gentleman's statement that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had said that every official in Halifax must vote for the Government candidate, he said that he knew his hon. friend Mr. Annand too well to believe that he made such a statement, and he did not believe he made it. (*Hear, hear.*) He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) took the ground that even in Nova Scotia, where officials were not debarred by law as in the other Provinces from voting, they should refrain from active interference in elections.

He did not wish to see the American system introduced into the country as the hon. gentleman did, but after this he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) should take good care that there not be one law in Nova Scotia and one in Ontario with regard to its officials voting, but the same rule should apply to all the Provinces, and that every class of officials would be dealt with alike. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said that the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had thought fit to deny his (Mr. Jones') statements with reference to every official in his county having voted for him and that every influence was brought to bear on them to get them to vote for him. He (Mr. Jones) repeated that he had it from sources more reliable than anything that fell from the hon. gentleman that every inducement he could offer, and every threat he could exercise, were used by him to get those men to vote for him.

In 1870 that hon. gentleman and his colleagues thought fit to send letters over the Province ridiculing the Local Government. In 1870 the late Government gave to each Province the law which previously existed, but in Nova Scotia they threw back the legislation under their Interim Elections Act five years in order to suit their own ends. They had suffered long enough under the operation of that law. When he (Mr. Jones) came out he made a speech, to which the hon. gentleman had referred, in which he had told the Dominion officials that they were free men and not the slaves the late Government had made them, and in which he had also stated, as he still believed, that these officials should not work actively against the Government whose servants they were. In his statements he spoke only on his own responsibility, and not from any communication with the Government.

The member for Cumberland was returned in 1867 alone, without a man from his own Province to support him, and after being in office for five or six years he was again placed in the humiliating position of being alone among the representatives of his own Province, and probably before long Cumberland would also write herself on the proper side. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER complained that the leader of the Government had used offensive language towards him. With reference to the statement that the late Government allowed the Custom House officials to vote in Nova Scotia when they could not vote elsewhere, he asserted that under the Union Act the officials were precluded from voting in Ontario and Quebec; but in Nova Scotia the Local Legislature altered the previous state of things, which allowed those officials to vote, and this Parliament had merely retained the previous law. He proceeded to remark that the member for Halifax would probably be relieved by the Courts of his presence in this House.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) informed the hon. gentleman that his election petition had been thrown out by the judges.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that not half a dozen officials had voted for him at the last election. He denied that his party had at all adopted the American system, though the party opposed to them having ejected officials on political grounds, they were forced to take the same course. (*Hear, hear.*) He asserted that Ministerial pressure was never brought to bear more strongly than by this Government in the late elections.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the hon. gentleman stated that he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had laid down a year ago that every official was free as air, when he knew that he referred only to country postmasters. He had moved the re-committal of the Interim Elections Bill to disfranchise those officials in Nova Scotia who were disfranchised in the other Provinces. It was true that the Government had adopted the franchise used in the Province, but he still thought that these officials ought not to take part in these elections. He complained of the offensive language and reckless statements of the hon. gentleman from Cumberland. The hon. gentleman had tried to make him responsible for the utterances of newspapers, but he had no connection whatever with the press, and not one paper in Canada was authorized to speak on his behalf.

Mr. CARMICHAEL stated that nearly every official in Pictou who voted for him in 1872 was dismissed on that account.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL repudiated the statement that he had dismissed any one for political reasons, and defended the Department of Marine and Fisheries from charges of unfairness. He had been associated in the Government with gentlemen with whom he differed in politics, in order to carry out Confederation, and would not have remained in the Government had not certain charges been hanging over the Administration. He was not in accord with the Opposition, but these attacks were forcing him into Opposition. Messrs. Snow, Ball, and Hutchinson had stated in his county that all the officials who voted for him would be turned out.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) asked if the hon. gentleman had not stated on the hustings that his relations with the Government were such that he had control of the county.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he had not. He spoke at considerable length in defence of the Administration, of which he had been a member, and which had been so much assailed during the debate with reference to the officials of the Government influencing the elections. He alleged that at this election a telegram had been sent by the present Administration, in which the officials learned that they would either vote against him or be dismissed. In the face, however, of this opposition he was returned. The last Administration could point to a series of legislative triumphs which stood as a record of their intelligence and their perseverance, and the present Government would be very fortunate if they rivalled them in their measures. He did not think the country would sustain the Government in their proposed system of lowering principle.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that the member for Northumberland had received the support of the large majority of the Government officials, and the Government had not interfered

with them in that or any other county. He was informed that the hon. gentleman had claimed the prospective patronage of the county, and he had replied that the hon. gentleman had no authority to make such statements. He was also informed that the hon. gentleman had told the fishermen that the Government were going to take away their rights, and he had replied, contradicting the statement.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL denied that he had made such statements.

After a few remarks from **Mr. KIRK**—who gave several instances of corruption on the part of the late Government—and Messrs. **TUPPER, CARMICHAEL** and **MITCHELL,** the discussion was concluded by **Hon. Mr. MITCHELL** having denied ever making a political dismissal as charged by the member for Pictou (Mr. Carmichael).

The resolution passed.

Progress was reported, and the House adjourned at 2.35 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 4, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law, including one from Hamilton with 2,201 signatures, presented by **Mr. IRVING**.

Some petitions were presented in favour of protection to manufacturers.

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RETURN

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT presented a return by Insurance Companies, according to law.

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REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the second report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the third report of the Joint Committee on Printing.

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BILL INTRODUCED

Mr. MOSS introduced a Bill to enable the Great Western Railway Company further to extend and improve its connections, and to authorize and confirm the issue of certain debenture stock.

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MOTIONS

Mr. BROOKS moved that the petition of the shareholders of the St. Francis and Mégantic Railway Company be now received and read.

The motion was carried, and the petition referred to the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following private Bills were advanced a stage:—

An Act to incorporate the Lochiel, Hawkesbury and L'Orignal Junction Railway Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, etc, etc. The bill had been introduced by the **Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry)**.

An Act to change the name of "The Victoria Bank of Canada" to that of "The Manufacturers' Bank of Canada."

An Act to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 106, incorporating the Canada Investment and Guarantee Agency.

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ALBION MINES SAVINGS BANK

The second reading of the bill respecting the Albion Mines Savings Bank was then moved by **Mr. CARMICHAEL** and carried.

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IMMIGRANTS RETURNING HOME

Mr. STEPHENSON asked whether it was true that the Minister of Agriculture had evidence of the fact that immigrants are in the habit of coming to Canada during the summer, receiving Government assistance, securing high wages, and returning to England during the winter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government had no information relative to this.

* * *

INSOLVENCY LAW

Mr. BABY enquired whether it was the intention of the Government to bring in an insolvency law this session.

Hon. Mr. DORION: It is the intention of Government to bring in a measure to amend the Insolvency Law this session.

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CHETICAMP HARBOUR

Mr. McDONNELL enquired whether the Government intended to expend any money in dredging and improving the Harbour of Cheticamp, Inverness County, and if so when.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government proposed, as soon as a dredge could be obtained from England in that quarter, to dredge the harbour out, as well as a part of the channel by which it is entered from the north. The purpose would be to give better access to the harbour. It was not, however, the intention of the Government to build the piers proposed to be placed there by Mr. Baillairgeon and Mr. Page.

* * *

SPRING FLOODS

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) moved for a report or reports of the Commissioners named to enquire into the causes of the high spring floods of the St. Lawrence between Quebec and Montreal.

The motion was carried.

* * *

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved that an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General for a return of all appointments made since 1st November last to the inside service of the Post Office Department: the names of the officers, the dates of the appointments, and the salaries respectively.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said that he had no objection to the return being brought down.

* * *

MAIL TRANSPORT

Mr. POULIOT moved an address for, 1st. Copies of the notices calling for tenders for the transport of mails between Rivière du Loup, in the Province of Quebec, and Edmundston, in the Province of New Brunswick, for the four years beginning on the lst April or lst May, 1868.

2nd. Copies of the tenders received for the transport of such mails.

3rd. Copies of correspondence between the Postmaster General or any other officer of the Post Office Department and the parties tendering, or any other parties acting for them, after the tenders were received, and a statement of the time when the contract for the transport of such mails was given, together with other written documents whatsoever having reference to such contracts.

4th. Copies of all correspondence and other written documents having reference to the continuation of the said contract after the fixed period for which it had been given in 1868, together with copies of the last mentioned contract.

He contended that the transfer of the contract which had been made by the contractor to Hon. Mr. Tupper was an illegal transfer.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said the information would be brought down, but the contract in question was let by his predecessor, Mr. Campbell. He thought that when the papers came down it would be clear that the transfer for the contract to Hon. Mr. Tupper was perfectly proper and legal.

The motion was carried.

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VIENNA EXHIBITION

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved for copies of reports made by the Commissioners to the Vienna Exhibition.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Does the hon. gentleman wish to get the correspondence as well as the reports? There was some correspondence with the Department after the return of the Commissioners, not affecting the technical object of the journey, however, but more the money arrangements.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: No, I do not care for that. I merely wish to get the information which would be interesting to the people.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) said that he thought it would be desirable to get some information with regard to the expenses of that Commission. There were some queer stories going about the cost of it to the country, and he would move in an amendment to the motion that they have a detailed statement of the expenses of the expedition.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government would have no objection to bringing down the additional information, but he thought it would be better to have it in a separate paper.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) said that on condition of getting the information with regard to expense in a separate paper he would withdraw his amendment.

The amendment was withdrawn, and the original motion passed.

* * *

YALE AND KOOTENAY ELECTION

Mr. DEWDNEY moved for correspondence between the Government and the Returning Officer of the Yale and Kootenay District, for reference to the last election in said District. He said that he only wished to show that every effort was made by the Dominion government, and also by the Returning Officer, to have the returns made in the time specified.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that there was no doubt a few telegrams passed between the Department and the Returning Officer with respect to the election at Yale. There was no objection to communicating the information. He was not aware that there had been any other correspondence.

Mr. DEWDNEY said that what he wanted to get especially was a telegram which appeared in one of the local papers, signed "Minister of Justice". He wished to know how that telegram appeared there. The telegram was also sent to the Returning Officer, and he had no communication with the paper in question. It was a mystery to him to know how it got there.

Hon. Mr. DORION: There can be no objection to giving all the correspondence that passed.

The motion was then carried.

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STAMPS ON PROMISSORY NOTES

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved that the House do resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution in reference to a bill to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes, to the following effect—That no bill of exchange or

promissory note shall be invalid either because it is not stamped or is insufficiently stamped, or that any formality as to date or erasure of the stamps affixed thereto has been omitted, or that a wrong date has been placed upon such stamps, but no recovery shall be had or any verdict or judgment be rendered in any court upon such bill or note unless, before such recovery, verdict or judgment, stamps to the value of one quarter of one dollar upon every one hundred dollars payable in and by the said bill or note are affixed and cancelled upon such bill or note.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the resolution provided that no bill should be annulled in consequence of there being no stamps on it. The practical effect of this would be that nobody would stamp their notes. (*Hear, hear.*)

If he understood the motion, any man might be relieved of the penalty and loss he would otherwise sustain by merely paying a quarter of a dollar for every one hundred dollars of the amount of the note upon the eve of judgment being obtained against him.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that he had been asked by Hon. Mr. Cameron (Cardwell), who would not be able to be present, to take charge of the Bill. He (Hon. Mr. Holton) had understood his hon. friend assented to the resolution when it was introduced and explained by Mr. Cameron. Of course every precaution should be made for the protection of the revenue, and Mr. Cameron did not, he (Hon. Mr. Holton) thought, intend to attack the revenue in any way, but simply that when a man signs a note he shall be obliged to pay it, even if there is some irregularity with reference to the attachment of stamps. He (Hon. Mr. Holton) did not wish, however, to press the motion if there was any objection to it, but would allow it to stand till Mr. Cameron was present.

Hon. Mr. DORION said if one of the securities for the payment of the stamps was done away with directly, the promissory note was declared not to be invalid, and he repeated that it would be far better to do away with the stamps altogether.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the intention was to do away with the grossly immoral fact that a man was not bound to pay from some informality in the stamps. The law, until amended by the bill of Mr. Cameron's, would not protect and this resolution ought to be so amended as to secure the proper protection. It did not propose, as suggested by one hon. member, to affect the revenue in any way, but merely to provide that a note should be valid, even if there had been some irregularity in the matter of stamps.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said they might as well repeal the Stamp Act altogether as pass this resolution. There would be no necessity for putting on stamps except in litigated cases.

The order was allowed to stand.

* * *

DESPATCH OF PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON moved for a special committee to consider if any facilities could be given for the despatch of business in Parliament, especially with regard to the relations of the two houses. In 1869 a similar motion had been made in the English House of Commons, and, although the positions were somewhat different, yet, he thought, at any rate they could try and see whether means could not be devised for saving time, and for helping forward legislation. After the discussion of the bill by the large committees it was referred to the other House, and then came back again; but, if a joint standing committee to examine these bills were appointed, there would be no injustice done, and no advantage taken by one House or the other, and the bill itself would be settled.

He proposed the Committee be composed of Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald and Hon. Messrs. Dorion, Holton, Cameron (Cardwell), Blake, Smith (Westmorland), and the mover. He advocated the formation of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider Bills which might be introduced.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE strongly objected to the proposal for a conference of members of both Houses preliminary to the introduction of bills, which would be practically the legislating of one chamber. (*Hear, hear.*) It was desirable to separate the two Houses in their legislative capacity. He did not think the proposed scheme was consistent with our system of legislation.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON supposed the motion was made with a view of considering whether the English practice with regard to private bills might not be imposed here. A great saving of time was thereby effected. Whether the inconvenience of the present system here was enough to induce them to make any change, as in England, might be doubted, but at any rate there might be some enquiry made. Of course he agreed with the Premier in his general remarks, but with regard to private bills he sided with the member for Quebec Centre.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON did not think it would interfere with public, but only with private, legislation.

The motion was carried.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON then moved that the Senate be informed of the appointment of seven members to the Committee, and that they be called upon to appoint an equal number.—Carried.

* * *

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr. WILKES moved to add Mr. McLeod, of Kent, New Brunswick, to the Committee on Public Accounts.

The motion was carried.

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MARINE TELEGRAPHS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**, representing **Hon. Mr. BLAKE**, the House went into Committee on the Bill to regulate the construction and maintenance of the marine electrical telegraph, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraphs.

The various clauses were adopted with amendments. The Committee reported the Bill, and it was read a third time and passed.

* * *

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW

On the order for the further consideration of the proposed motion of **Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)** that the second report of the Select Committee on petitions for a prohibitory liquor law be now concurred in.

Mr. OLIVER said he desired to say a few words on the subject. He complimented Mr. G.W. Ross and the Premier (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) upon the views they individually entertained upon this important subject, and felt sure that the sentiments they expressed would be received with great satisfaction throughout the country. He commented upon the extraordinary number of petitions presented to the House in favour of a prohibitory liquor law, and quoted the opinions of leading medical men in this country and in England averse to the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. He held that public sentiment had recently undergone a very great and favourable change with respect to both temperance and temperance men, both on this continent and in the mother country.

The law as it stood at present was in no way competent to meet the requirements of the great evil. The Dunkin Act had been a failure, and something more potent was wanted. Temperance organizations had been doing their best to check the growth of the evil; the Local Government of Ontario had taken steps to establish an Inebriate Asylum in that Province; Ministers of the Gospel had laboured faithfully, and local efforts of great force had been put forth, in order to meet the growth of intemperance, but it had nevertheless grown steadily and much. He quoted the large amount of money spent on drink in this country and the United States yearly, and showed to what an extent the sum so spent would reduce the public debt if applied for that purpose. He denied, however, that we were worse in this country in respect of temperance than in other countries; he repudiated any such idea altogether, and contended we were comparatively better than many others.

He expressed his pleasure at the removal of the drinking saloon in connection with the House of Commons, and only wished that the Chamber at the other end had come to a similar resolution. He hoped a Commission such as that asked for in the motion would be appointed to take evidence on the matter, and he concluded by cordially supporting the resolution of the hon. member for Middlesex West.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he had no objection to seeing the motion pass, but he contended it was a matter for the Local Governments to deal with.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) said the Attorney General had denied the right to the Local Legislatures, as had the member for Quebec Centre (Hon. Mr. Cauchon) to the Parliament of the Dominion; but, as it was a matter affecting the revenue, although it was not within the jurisdiction of the former, it certainly was, he contended, of the latter.

After a few words from Hon. Mr. Cauchon,

The motion was carried.

* * *

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

Mr. MOSS moved the second reading of the Bill to make further provisions for the management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada. In doing so, he said he did not intend to trouble the House with the details, for the simple reason that a private Bill had been introduced last session which gave to a certain Society powers almost identical with those he now sought for Societies generally. There were a large number of private Bills introduced this session which would be unnecessary if this Bill were passed.

The motion was carried, and the Bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

MR. PERRY'S ELECTION

Mr. SCATCHERD moved the second reading of the Bill to indemnify Stanislaus Francis Perry (Prince County) for having sat and voted as a member of the House of Commons under the circumstances therein mentioned.

Hon. Mr. ABBOTT said there was a question whether it was necessary to pass this Bill, as no election could be questioned except in the way pointed out by law. If it were not necessary it was not desirable to establish such a precedent.

Mr. CAMERON said the Committee on Privileges and Elections had recommended the passage of this Bill.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER thought if the hon. gentleman was disqualified by law, it was not for the House to remove that disqualification. He considered it would be improper for the House to interfere under the circumstances, and that such a proceeding would destroy the whole principle of the law of disqualification. If this were done he believed it would open a door that would be found to be very inconvenient.

Mr. SCATCHERD pointed out that the Committee on Privileges and Elections had been unanimous in their opinion that Mr. Perry ought to be seated, and the report of the Committee had been unanimously adopted by the House.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD contended that the whole scope and spirit of the law of Prince Edward Island was to allow a member of the Legislature to send in his resignation to the Lieutenant-Governor, although the wording was not to that effect. It was never anticipated that Prince Edward Island would be taken into the confederation, and he thought the spirit of the law had been carried out by Mr. Perry.

Mr. MILLS said there was a precedent in 1867, when Bills of Indemnity were passed for several members of the House. He contended that this Act was necessary to prevent vexatious prosecution.

Mr. MOSS thought this question a very important one. The whole question was, as stated in the preamble of this Bill, whether

Mr. Perry should be allowed to take his seat in accordance with the spirit of the law, or whether they should carry out the strict letter to prevent him. He held that that gentleman had taken every step which it was possible for a reasonable man to take in order to relieve himself from the disability under which he was placed as an aspirant to the position of a member of this House, and therefore this House should give him the protection he asked for from such harassing actions, on the instance of any common informer, as one which he believed had actually been brought against him.

The Bill was then read a second time, and the House went into Committee thereon, **Mr. YOUNG** in the chair.

After further discussion, the Bill was passed through Committee, with certain amendments, and the Committee rose and reported.

The Bill was then read and passed.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

SUPPLY

The House went into Committee of Supply.

The item of $227,950 for Excise was passed without discussion; as also were $50,000 for Weights and Measures, and $3,000 under the head of Inspection of Staples.

The following items under the head of Collection of Revenues on Public Works were passed:—Salaries and Contingencies of Canal offices, $34,020; Collection of Slide and Boom dues, $16,925; repairs and working expenses in connection with public works, $532,400;

The item $2,055,000 for the Intercolonial Railway and other Government Railways in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, showing an increase of $496,000,

Mr. DOMVILLE asked the meaning of this increase.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was for rolling stock and stores.

For Railways, Prince Edward Island, $202,500; Telegraph lines, British Columbia, $27,000.

Also the following under the head of Collection of Revenues of Post Offices: for Ontario and Quebec, $1,052,000; New Brunswick, $128,000; Nova Scotia, $172,000; Manitoba, $26,000; British Columbia, $78,000; Prince Edward Island, $49,500. Also the items of Surveys of Land in the Northwest, $100,000, and estimated amount for which a vote is required, $10,000.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there would have to be a supplementary appropriation for surveys and other expenses.

For Minor revenues, $10,000.

All the unopposed items in the estimates were then passed and the Committee went back for the purpose of considering a vote of $650,000 for the Fort Garry and Pembina Railway. On this item,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was the sum which would probably be used for this purpose during the coming year. The distance was some sixty-five miles from the probable crossing point of the Pacific Railway to the American border. The Bill which the Government would bring down in the course of a few days would provide for the mode of constructing this portion, as well as other sections of the Pacific Railway. The sum, as hon. gentlemen would observe, would amount to about $10,000 per mile.

The construction of this portion of the road, however, would depend a good deal upon whether the branch in the United States which came to the border would be proceeded with or not. That road was in the hands of the Dutch bondholders, a Committee of whom had charge of the work; and it rested with them to decide whether the construction was to be proceeded with or not. The road so far was now graded to within thirteen miles of our boundary, and the iron was laid to about within sixty miles. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was informed their decision would depend upon whether the tract of land attaching to the road, which would lapse this summer, would be renewed by Congress, and he had also been informed that the Committee of Congress charged with the matter had agreed to report the Bill for the renewal.

It would be quite useless for us to spend any large sum of money in building this road to the frontier unless the American branch was also constructed, as the chief object in building at all would be to get supplies through it for the construction of the Pacific Railway eastward to the Lake of the Woods, as well as to afford ready access to the country. It was tolerably evident our own means of access by the Dawson road and the water reaches, which were only passable during six months of the year, and for a great portion of that year, only available to those who had plenty of leisure time, were not nearly sufficient.

He repeated, however, that the determination regarding the portion of road in question would depend to a great extent upon the action taken in regard to the American branch, and he explained that it was necessary for the Government to take the vote of money in order to enable them to make provision for the construction of the branch were the condition he had mentioned complied with.

They had tolerably exact information with regard to the character of the country on both sides of the Red River, and so far as he had been able to ascertain, there was on the east side a gravel reach running parallel with the river; there would be no steep gradients, there would be no hills, and only two or three rivers, the chief of which, the Rousseau River, was near Pembina. The road would be easy of construction, and the chief cost would be the iron. There was no necessity for sending a corps of engineers to survey it, and he was informed by the Surveyor General and Mr. Fleming, the Chief Engineer, that two or three engineers a fortnight ahead of the engineering party was all that was wanted. There was no survey yet, but the field notes of the land surveyors enabled the Government to understand what was the character of the country.

He did not think he could give any further information upon this occasion, but fuller explanations would be given when they brought down the Pacific Railway Bill, which he hoped to be able to do on Thursday. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought that before passing this vote it would be better to have the plan of the Government for building the road. They were asked now to vote this money upon a work which was practically a Government work, and he thought, therefore, the sense of the House should be taken upon the policy of the government in relation to this whole work before the vote was taken for this particular service.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he quite admitted the force of the hon. gentleman's remarks, but he would find when the Government Bill was brought down that it would propound a policy which he could quite approve of. He might anticipate his remarks upon the general subject so far as to say that Parliament would have to sanction the contracts to be made. (*Hear, hear.*) The construction of the branch for which this vote was asked would, however, if begun at all, be pretty well advanced before Parliament would be likely to meet again; and therefore the contract could not be submitted. The plan, he repeated, which he would propose at an early date, would be such as he had no doubt would meet with the approval of his hon. friend, but he did not care particularly whether the vote in question was taken at this time or not.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he did not think the Government were open to blame for asking for this vote at all. If, however, they were going to consider it as a portion of the Pacific Railway scheme, he thought it would be better to allow it to stand over.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the old Pacific Railway policy was that the railway should be constructed by a company. This having broken down, the Government should bring down their policy before asking for this grant.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said Mr. Fleming's report would not be ready this week, after which Government would bring down their policy.

The item passed.

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CANADIAN PACIFIC SURVEY

On the item of $500,000 for the Pacific Railway survey,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was, of course, known that the heaviest part of the survey was in British Columbia, and the district between Fort Garry and Nipissing. They had suspended the operations between Nipigon Lake and Lake Nipissing, on the ground that it was a portion of the work which would not be required to be constructed so soon.

There had been a large party at work between Nipigon and the Lake of the Woods all winter, the object being to ascertain how Lake Superior could be reached most directly. If the route from the south end of Nipigon presented a favourable aspect for the railway, it would be the most direct route to Lake Nipissing. At the present moment they had not the precise information, but it was not unlikely that the road would tend northward to the mouth of Kaministiquia River, to the north end of the Lake of the Woods. That line was reported to be favourable, presenting no grade higher than 52 feet, and that grade in the right direction—that is, westward. They expected a favourable route to Lake Nipigon, but at present they were without that precise information which would enable them to determine upon the exact line.

The surveys in British Columbia had been practically suspended during the winter and four parties were now sent out to complete the work. When Mr. Fleming's report was before the House, it would be seen that the difficulty in crossing the Cascade Mountains was greater than that to be experienced in crossing the Rocky Mountains, and that at several points between the Rocky Mountains and the waters of the Pacific a greater altitude was reached than in passing through the mountains. Several items of information had yet to be obtained before the Government could determine the precise point to be reached on the coast or the route adopted for crossing the Rocky Mountains.

So far as was known at present, the route by the Yellowhead Pass was likely to prove the most valuable, because it occupied a more central position in the territory and would make all portions of the country more accessible than any other route.

On the other hand, there was a more favourable country to be traversed perhaps by making the route bend in a north-westerly direction from the Peace River, intersecting the Smoky River, and passing through the Rocky Mountains at Pine River summit, without reaching an elevation of more than 1,800 feet. It was proposed to have an exploring party there this season to ascertain whether that presented any more favourable feature than the southern or Yellowhead Pass. In that event, the line would cross the north bend of the Fraser River and reach the coast at Bute Inlet or some other point in British Columbia.

The great difficulty, as he had stated, was in getting across the Cascade Range, which at the most favourable point rose no less than 115 feet to the mile, and that, too, for a continuous stretch of 15 miles without any level reaches at all. That was, indeed, a very formidable portion of the work. Bute Inlet was at present likely to be the most favourable terminal point. There had been reports that the Pacific could be reached by some easier route to the north of Bute Inlet, but in order that no mistakes should be made in the ultimate location of the railway, an exploring party had been sent in that direction to see the character of the country.

Surveying parties in British Columbia would cause the principal portion of the expense this year. These parties were sent there, and Mr. Marcus Smith would be the Chief Engineer. Up to the present time a little over half a million dollars had been spent west of the Rocky Mountain in exploring the country.

Nothing like instrumental surveying had yet been done, although for a considerable distance the general route of the line was ascertained. However, careful instrumental surveys would be

necessary in order to get the best possible route, and a careful examination made in order to ascertain approximately the cost and enabling contractors to know somewhat definitely the extent of the works.

He had always held that the great mistake in the Intercolonial Railway was letting out the work before there was a proper survey made, and the Government were determined that the mistake should not occur again. The surveys would be completed as rapidly as possible, but they must be accurate. He conceived it to be impossible to spend any money on British Columbia this year, except in surveys.

Mr. De COSMOS hoped the present Government would not treat the people of British Columbia as the last had done. Four years had now nearly passed since a commencement should have been made upon the railway, and still no work had been done. The contract was already broken, but if the Government did not commence in British Columbia at once, the people would feel that faith with them had entirely been broken, and he was not prepared to say what action they would take.

If the work were not commenced at once, the people would appeal to the Imperial authorities, and see whether they had no means of obtaining justice. So far as his private information went, a large portion of the people were only waiting for such an expression of opinion as they had heard just now to send their appeal to the Imperial Government, and ask for an extra session of their own Legislature in order to sanction their action.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was the intention of the Government to complete the surveys all through before commencing to build the railway, and he could assure his hon. friend, however anxious the Government might be, it was utterly impossible to commence it this year.

Mr. De COSMOS said there was a portion where it might be commenced at once, and the Minister of Public Works was labouring under a false impression and from false information, if he thought otherwise. The portions which he referred to were that at Esquimalt and the Narrows, and he did not see any reason why it should not be proceeded with just as well as the branch from Fort Garry to Pembina. He held that it was a portion of the contract with British Columbia that this portion should be proceeded with at once and that the connection should be at Esquimalt.

Mr. ROSCOE asked if the east coast of Vancouver Island would be surveyed this year.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the appropriation was for the whole work of the survey.

The item was then agreed to.

Mr. WILKES said it was the desire of the people of Ontario that the Fort Garry and Pembina Railway should be completed at once, and he did not see why the item for that road should stand over till the Pacific Railway Bill came down.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it had an intimate connection with the whole scheme.

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CANAL DE LA BAIE VERTE

On the item of $500,000 for Canal de la Baie Verte,

Mr. DOMVILLE asked if the amount was to be spent on the canal during the next financial year, 1875.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it would be necessary to settle the course of the canal about which the engineers differed before they could determine this question. The Government would spend as much as the public interest required. The Government could give no more explicit pledge than that at present.

Mr. DOMVILLE wanted some definite answer.

Mr. CURRIER thought the Government were doing quite right to take time to consider this matter.

Mr. KILLAM said this canal was looked upon by the people of the Lower Provinces as a part of the scheme of Confederation. (*Laughter.*) He believed the people of the Lower Provinces would expect the money to be spent in those Provinces to compensate for the amount to be spent in the Western Provinces. If the Canal de la Baie Verte were not to be built, he thought the money should be expended in the eastern extension of the railway system.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said it was clear that the work would cost an enormous sum of money, not less than $8,000,000, probably $10,000,000 or $12,000,000. It would be very valuable at a reasonable cost to connect the waters of the St. Lawrence and those of the Bay of Fundy, but it was a serious question whether the cost would be at all commensurate with the expenditure, being double what it was estimated to be when the work was first introduced to the House.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) asked what authority the hon. gentleman had for saying the cost would be $12,000,000.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the same as he had for saying that the Intercolonial Railway would cost $20,000,000. The only survey which the Government had was a military one. This laid the cost at about $8,000,000 and, judging from past surveys of this kind, he was convinced the cost would be much higher. The least this canal would cost would be $10,000,000, and he believed it would be $12,000,000. It had not been shown that any direct or indirect advantage would accrue to the country at all commensurate with this enormous expenditure.

Mr. PALMER spoke of the productiveness of the section through which the Canal de la Baie Verte passed, and defied his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) to deny that if the work could be accomplished at any reasonable cost it would be exceedingly beneficial, as it would reduce 200 miles of navigation to twenty. He spoke of the easy level of the land through which the canal would pass, and said that if the contrary was found to be the case, the people of the Lower Provinces would be prepared to

abandon the scheme. He proceeded to discuss the conflicting views of the Engineers, and held that there was nothing to indicate that the canal would cost one dollar more than Mr. Keefer had stated. The most careful estimate showed that the maximum cost would be $7,800,000.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said he thought it reasonable for the people of the Maritime Provinces to expect a sum of money to be spent in these Provinces commensurate with the large sum spent in the Western Provinces in such great undertakings as the Pacific Railway. There were works more necessary in the Maritime Provinces than one of such doubtful utility as the Baie Verte Canal. He should be sorry to see the Government committed to this scheme before they had heard the fullest discussion upon it.

He would be willing to see the Government place $7,000,000 in the estimates to aid in the extension of railways, one-half for New Brunswick, one-half for Nova Scotia, and he was satisfied that it would be of much greater utility to the Maritime Provinces and to the Dominion at large than the Canal de la Baie Verte. (*Hear, hear.*) However much people might desire the Canal, he was sure they would prefer railways. They would take this for the present—(*laughter*)—in return for the amount to be expended on canals in the west. When the Pacific Railway expenditure came up, then the Canal de la Baie Verte scheme might be entertained. He looked upon the Pacific Railway and the Canal de la Baie Verte as pretty much in the same category.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that this entry on estimates covered an amount which there was no intention to spend, and he, therefore, was not surprised to see gentlemen on the Government side getting up in their places and opposing the expenditure. He cited the recommendation of the Dominion Board of Trade in regard to this matter, the appointment of a Canal Commission, and their unanimous report as to its paramount necessity and importance.

He looked upon the attitude this question was assuming as a breach of faith with the whole Canadian canal scheme before them. The House of Commons had voted the expenditures, and, in viewing the position of affairs today, he did not envy the position of the Minister of Marine and the Minister of Customs, who last year had voted for delay, and had delayed the late Government in the work, in order, as they said, to have further inquiries made. The hon. gentlemen were either in a position to press their work or stand out and prevent the work going on.

He proceeded to speak of the advantages promised by the work, and censured the Premier for his delay in the matter, in view of the utterances of the Speech from the Throne. He had no hesitation in saying that, while the present Premier remained in power, not a dollar would be spent on this work. He denied that this was a local expenditure. It was a public proposition, and had received the unanimous sanction of the late Government. It was thus outside of any sectional question.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman seemed to think it would be a great sin in the Government not to expend this money this year, though the late Government had not expended the money which was voted for this purpose year after year. He unfairly accused his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) colleagues of obstructing this work. The Canal Commission had only one engineer upon it, and he had a higher opinion of his colleagues than ever when he learned that they had prevented a reckless expenditure of money before receiving the report of the Chief Engineer. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) said the late Government had not themselves, he believed, agreed upon this matter. He was in favour of the construction of this Canal, if it could be done effectually and cheaply and he thought it might be possible to lessen the width of this canal.

Mr. DOMVILLE denounced the delay which had taken place in this matter, and also contended that the diminution of the canal would lessen its utility in a very high degree.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said according to the report of the Chief Engineer the bottom width was one hundred feet. It might be that this might be lessened. It was highly necessary to proceed calmly and deliberately in these matters, and to let contracts in a way to prevent those heart-burnings which had been caused by the manner in which the late Government had given out contracts.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the late Government had considered this canal a Dominion work for the benefit of the whole country. There were two very competent engineers upon the Canal Commission—Mr. Gzowski and Mr. Samuel Keefer; and the Government believed the report of that Commission was all that was necessary. They had postponed the commencement of the work in compliance with the expressed wishes of members from that part of the country. He complained that the sum should not have been placed on the estimates if no assurance could be given that it would be spent. He believed the lessening of the canal would destroy its character as a Dominion work.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he thought there was a reasonable probability of the money being spent, but he had merely refused to make a specific pledge.

Mr. KILLAM said there would be an enormous traffic through the Canal. He thought sixteen feet should be the minimum depth.

Hon. Mr. COFFIN said he thought eighty feet width was amply sufficient. The proposal reduction in the size of the canal would reduce the expenditure by $280,000.

Mr. TROW suggested that the $20,000,000 spent on the Intercolonial Railway was a slight equivalent in the east for the money which hon. gentlemen spoke of as being spent in the west. He thought the Government should study economy but defended the proposed expenditure.

Mr. McLEOD said the Intercolonial Railway was one of the conditions of Confederation. He contended that this Canal would be for the benefit of the whole Dominion. He defended the appropriation, believing that the Government would not ask for this money without intending to carry the project to a successful issue.

Mr. DAVIES said that this Canal would be of great importance to Prince Edward Island. Still he thought the Government were exercising a wise discretion in pausing before engaging in this vast expenditure, since they already had two outlets in the Atlantic.

Mr. MOSS said he trusted the Government would not expend a dollar upon this work unless they were thoroughly assured that it was for the general benefit of the Dominion, and was worth the cost. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. SINCLAIR agreed with the last speaker. He believed this work would be of great benefit, and ought to be proceeded with if the Government could see their way to constructing it. He did not look upon the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick railways as Dominion works, and he thought no Government should attempt to act upon the principle that a certain amount of money should be spent in one section of the Dominion because a similar amount had been spent in another.

The item then passed.

The Committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

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CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER, in moving that the House go into Committee on the Bill to make better provision for the trial of controverted elections of members of the House of Commons, explained the principal amendments he intended to propose. It was proposed to add the Court of Appeal of Ontario to the Courts having jurisdiction. It was also proposed to add to the definition of corrupt practices those which were recognized by the common law of Parliament. He was not averse to the proposal to require the securities to consist of deposits in money alone. Still, he thought they should not place too severe restrictions on preliminary proceedings. He proposed to render sureties who did not pay the amount for which they were responsible liable to imprisonment for contempt. It was also proposed to give a right of appeal in all the Provinces from the decision of one judge. This was the same process as proposed in the original bill for the Province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said section 68 seemed to limit the evidence to that against the candidate elected. He wished to know if evidence could be given against the defeated candidate.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the Bill gave power even to a successful candidate to claim that the unsuccessful candidate should be disfranchised for malpractice.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that when the unsuccessful candidate was not the petitioner there was no provision that the judge should try whether he had been guilty of corrupt practices, though it was provided that the judge must report thereon. He thought it of great importance that the right of appeal should be extended to all cases and he was of the opinion that the recognizances should be done away with and that the money should be paid. This would do away with the waste of time involved in the technical objection taken to recognizance. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. DORION said there was a great deal to recommend the substitution of a money deposit for a recognizance. It would prevent all the preliminary difficulties, and he had no doubt it would be adopted in Committee. There was a difficulty in making an issue where the unsuccessful candidate was not the petitioner, nor the seat claimed for him. He might be away, might know nothing about it, and might find that without any charge evidence was being brought against him. This might protract the trial for a very long time if the corrupt practices of the unsuccessful candidate were complained of there was a provision for their being tried, but on a new issue. He considered that the practice of producing evidence against the unsuccessful candidate, who did not claim the seat and was not petitioning, would be inconvenient in practice, and the greatest inconvenience would be that it would be an undesirable side issue.

Mr. MOSS said he was much impressed by the arguments of the member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). Under the present law he thought the unsuccessful candidate was placed in a more favourable position than anyone else, because under the 32nd clause any person was amenable to punishment for corrupt practices, but the unsuccessful candidate was not in an equal manner brought within the grasp of the law. The Judge was bound to report on the corrupt practices of every person, and, therefore, a defeated candidate should be liable to the same consequences.

He thought that either persons who were not candidates should not be liable to be charged on the report of the Judge or the defeated candidate should be. He was in favour of a deposit instead of a recognizance. He thought that in Ontario and probably in the Maritime Provinces the appeal might be from the Judge to the Court of which he was a member.

Mr. MacLENNAN was in favour of a deposit, and the provisions of the Bill as it stood were sufficient in relation to the trial of corrupt practices on the part of the defeated candidate. He advised that a petition be filed against the defeated candidate, otherwise no charge should be allowed against him. If this were not the law, he was placed in an unfair position, as it was enough for him to prove his own case without having a charge against himself of which he had not due notice.

The SPEAKER then left the chair and the House resolved itself into Committee, **Mr. GEOFFRION** in the chair.

On Clause 8,

Mr. MOSS said he had an idea that the Judge should have power to summon before him anyone against whom an allegation of corrupt practices was made, and decide summarily upon the matter.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the result would be to indefinitely delay the main issue.

Mr. DYMOND thought that those who had not been elected ought to have the same opportunities of defending themselves as the sitting member, and to give a Judge such a sweeping power as that suggested might deter persons from petitioning and frustrate the end they had in view.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) thought it unnecessary to raise collateral issues.

After some further discussion the clause was allowed to stand.

Several other clauses were passed, with certain amendments, and progress was reported.

* * *

NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LAW

Hon. Mr. DORION laid on the table a return of the cost of the appeal to Her Majesty's Privy Council in reference to the constitutionality of certain Acts (the School Law) of the Province of New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 12.20 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 5, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.15 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Several petitions for a prohibitory liquor law were presented.

* * *

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. RYMAL presented the eighth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

Mr. JONES (Halifax) introduced a bill to amend the Act relating to the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Mr. JETTÉ introduced a bill to incorporate the Royal Canadian Chemical Fire Engine Company.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the third report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

MARITIME WAREHOUSING AND DOCK COMPANY

On the motion of **Mr. DOMVILLE** the fee paid on the bill to amend the Act incorporating the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company was refunded in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

MILITIA EXPENDITURE

Before the orders of the day were called, **Hon. Mr. TUPPER** asked if the Hon. Minister of Finance would lay on the table a statement of the expenditure in the Militia Department down to the present time or any recent date.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said there would be no objection to the information being given up to the latest convenient period. He desired to know if the hon. gentleman wanted the statement in detail.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: No; I only want the amount.

CONCURRENCE IN SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved concurrence in the report of the Committee of Supply. The following items were concurred in: Charges of management, $68,100; civil government $739,815; administration of justice, $23,000; police $62,895; penitentiaries, $341,155; legislation $228,578; arts, agriculture and statistics, $93,980.

Under the head of Legislation, the resolution providing for the salaries and expenses of the Clerks of the House of Commons and Senate was allowed to stand, **Hon. Mr. HOLTON** calling attention to the discrepancy existing between the salaries of the same class of officer in the two Houses. The other items under the same head were passed.

The various items under the head of Agriculture and Statistics were passed, without discussion.

* * *

IMMIGRATION AND AN AGENT IN LONDON

On the motion for concurrence in the vote for immigration purposes,

Hon. Mr. HOLTON asked for some information regarding the system upon which the Government proposed to appoint agents, and the general working of the Immigration Agencies in Europe.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the agents were not all permanent officers, but it was the intention of the Government to have the system better centralized than before. Mr. Jenkins, the new agent of the Dominion on immigration and general matters, would have a clear and more general supervision over the agents than his predecessor had. They would have to report to Mr. Jenkins and the gentlemen employed would be selected with special reference to their qualification for the work. The Government had employed no casual agents, so far as he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was aware, but some changes would doubtless be necessary.

It was expected that the agents of the several Provinces would so work with the Dominion agents as to save each having an agent in the same place. It was not the intention of the Government to employ any other than thoroughly competent persons, and they would as far as possible make them permanent officers.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he had read in an English paper a rather glowing account of a Canadian Embassy in London, and he was not before aware that this country had a representative of that kind at Westminster. He desired to know from the Government how far the impression given by the newspaper report referred to was correct.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had not erected any building or official residence at Westminster, nor established a Canadian Embassy; but Mr. Jenkins was instructed to look out for an office with more accommodation than the present one, where Canadians visiting London could go and receive such information as might be necessary for them. They proposed, in fact, to establish a sort of Canadian library of books of reference and newspapers, and so offer such facility for information as was necessary for those calling upon the Dominion agent.

The matter was brought before the attention of the late Government by Mr. McDougall; it occupied the attention of the House upon a previous occasion, and the Government had no hesitation in directing Mr. Jenkins to obtain the increased accommodation referred to. The Immigration Minister of Ontario was about to visit London, and the Government had communicated with him to let him know that such accommodation was provided. The principal object in securing the building was for the purposes of the immigration agency, but those to which he had just referred were also calculated upon. There was no official residence, and nothing of the kind was expected.

Mr. BROUSE called attention to the inefficient character of the medical officers employed on emigrant ships, and stated that he was informed on good authority that the salaries of the chief and second surgeon in some cases did not exceed four and five shillings a day, respectively. The matter should, he thought, engage the attention of the Government.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the matter belonged more properly to the Imperial Government, which enacted from time to time such laws as were thought necessary for the regulation of ocean and emigrant vessels leaving British ports.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had given notice of a question upon this vote when it was passing through Committee of Supply, in connection with the appointment of Mr. Jenkins as Agent General of the Dominion. He asked what was the position of Mr. Jenkins, and in what respect that position differed from the position held by Mr. Dixon. The Order in Council laid upon the table was not very specific on the matter, and he would like to know exactly what was the position of the hon. gentleman, and whether increased powers had been given to him.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said Mr. Jenkins would have complete surveillance over the emigration agents in Europe, and in England especially. He would have to go down to the Provinces occasionally and direct operations there. He would also be expected to give some attention to Canadian gentlemen calling in London, and afford them the necessary introductions.

He would also have to attend to other business of the Canadian Government. For instance, there was a dredge being built in London just now, and there was a Mr. Scott who simply gave the order, and who was receiving two per cent, without even superintending the work. The Government thought this entirely unnecessary, and Mr. Jenkins would therefore have charge of such duties as that, and any others which might be committed to him from time to time. When any special confidential political matter was confided to him he would attend to it, but he had no stated political duties. A good deal of his time would no doubt be taken up with attending to visitors enquiring after Canadian affairs and discharging special duties which might be entrusted to him outside of the emigration department.

The Government thought that in view of all these extra duties it was only just to raise his salary $1,000 over that paid to his predecessor. He further stated that there was a clerical error in the Estimates, and that the salary for Mr. Jenkins should have been $4,000 instead of $3,000.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Is he to be paid specially for the extra services he may perform?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he was very glad to hear that Mr. Jenkins had not been appointed to hold anything like the position of an ambassador. It would have been a very unfortunate thing, he thought, if such a step had been taken by the Government. The idea, however, had gained ground that he had been appointed as a *quasi* ambassador, or as nearly so as our connection with the Mother Country would enable the Government to appoint him. That hon. gentleman had, in his speech at Dundee, represented himself as the representative of Canada on all matters of importance at the Court of St. James.

In the first place he (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) did not think any such person should be appointed, and he did not think any ambassador should be appointed who was a member of the English Parliament. The two positions were altogether inconsistent. As a member of the British Parliament addressing his own constituency, no one could cavil at his using such language to express his ideas as he thought proper. That language, it must be obvious, would be offensive to parties of high standing in England. Unfortunately Mr. Jenkins' duties to his constituents had led him to make an attack upon the Imperial Government of the day, calling one very prominent member of it "a screaming marquis" and the Prime Minister "a Penang lawyer". If the representative of any foreign nation in England had made use of such language, the Government would have been bound to ask for an immediate recall. The hon. gentleman, by putting himself in a false position, had utterly destroyed his opportunities of usefulness during the existence of the present Government. He hoped, however, no injury would result to the country from that gentleman holding his present position.

He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) was of opinion that were either Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Bright coming into power again they would not look upon Mr. Jenkins with any great favour either. The fewer matters of political importance which went through Mr. Jenkins' hands so much the better, so far as he thought. He quite admitted that hon. gentlemen in the Government could not be held responsible for Mr. Jenkins' words upon that occasion but he should at least have been cautioned on his appointment to do nothing of that kind. However he was there and he (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) hoped that no injury would arise from the

matter. He had no doubt hon. gentlemen opposite were shocked and grieved and disappointed at the language used. (*Hear, hear.*)

At the same time, while he said all this, there was a great deal to be said in favour of the gentleman who was appointed. He was a Canadian, his father occupied a position of respectability and prominence in the country, and he had himself attained a considerable position in the literature of England. It was very natural that the Government of this country should look with a favourable eye upon him, and try to utilize him. He hoped, however, that no negotiations with the Imperial Government, in which the Government hoped to be successful, would be placed in his hands; and, indeed, his own opinion was that the appointment should have been as immigration agent and agent for general matters alone, without any connection whatever with political matters of high importance.

The appointment of colonial agents had been found to work detrimentally against some of the Australian colonies, and he was afraid the same thing would result in regard to Canada. If they had no colonial agent to represent them they could go direct to the Colonial Office, and he had himself found that the different Colonial Ministers were ready to give every attention to representations made on behalf of the Dominion. An agent would be an obstruction in this respect, because everything would have to pass through his hands, and he would have neither power nor influence enough to press it upon the Ministers' attention.

Again, unless he got an enormous salary he would be unable to maintain the social position which would enable him to introduce Canadians who might go to England into the desirable circles. Even if we did give him such a salary he would not be recognized by the Corps Diplomatique. He (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) was glad that the agency was confined to immigration and such special matters as would be entrusted to Mr. Jenkins by special instructions from the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the right hon. gentleman would not expect him either to defend or blame Mr. Jenkins for the speech referred to. It was made entire upon his own responsibility as a member of the British House of Commons, and in no way connected with his capacity as Agent General for Canada. He thought, however, that the right hon. gentleman had characterized rather strongly the pungent description Mr. Jenkins had given of his political opponents.

Mr. Jenkins was selected as Agent General for Canada in the first instance because he was a Canadian and living in England, and because he had an intimate knowledge of Canada and everything relating to it and especially of immigration matters. It would be remembered that he was Secretary of the National Emigration League, and that he was the author of several productions of note upon emigration both to South and North America and the Australian colonies. It would also be known to those who were acquainted with political society in England that he possessed in a great degree the confidence of the great body of the labouring classes and of trade unions. He was practically their legal agent in London; and thus, having an intimate connection with the great body of people from whom our emigrants were drawn, he was a highly desirable man to have in that position.

It was for these reasons, and because they believed him to be a man of unimpeachable character and great activity of disposition, that the Government wanted to have him appointed resident agent and Chief Emigration Agent in England; and although he was not vested with ambassadorial powers, still it was well to have a man of established character and status in society to whom might be entrusted from time to time even political missions to the Imperial Government.

The Government did not deem it advisable, in commencing a somewhat radical change in the administration of emigration affairs in England, to give plenary powers to anyone; but they had no reason to doubt that Mr. Jenkins would execute faithfully and well any mission entrusted to him as their agent, and they believed that the scheme was one which would result advantageously to the country.

He did not agree with the right hon. gentleman opposite that the plan of appointing resident Colonial agents had been a failure with regard to the Australian Colonies; and it was well known that a member of Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet had resigned his seat in order to accept one of these positions. He did not think there was any reason to doubt that the plan the Government had adopted would be eminently satisfactory. He did not think that the courtesy of the Colonial Minister would cease or be at all decreased because the Canadian Government had appointed an agent. (*Hear, hear.*) It was a complaint that reached the Government from all quarters, that if residents of the United States went to London, they could, through the American ambassador, get introductions anywhere, while Canadians were looked upon as British subjects, and not entitled to special privileges. That was to some extent correct, but Canadians were as much strangers in London as the United States people, and the Government thought it was necessary to have such an agent as Mr. Jenkins to introduce them, and such an office as his for their accommodation. He could do all this, in his opinion, without in any way indicating to the Imperial Government any desire to transact our business independently of them.

He did not anticipate that any evil results would follow the appointment of Mr. Jenkins, but if there was anything in the appointment, or in the policy which dictated it, which upon experience, appeared to work injuriously, there was nothing to bind the Government to persist in it. He, however, hoped that the high position attained by Mr. Jenkins in England as an author, as a speaker, and as a politician would serve to bring the Dominion more into notice and further advance its interests in the mother land. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) said he was very glad to hear of Mr. Jenkins' appointment. He knew him at McGill College, where he was a very promising and successful student. He contended that anything Mr. Jenkins might have said at Dundee was said in his capacity as a member of the British Legislature, and as an adherent of a political party there, but it had nothing to do with his duties as a representative of Canada, and would in no way injure his

efficiency. As a Canadian he was proud of the success of Mr. Jenkins in England, and he fully believed that any of the interests of Canada which might be entrusted to his management would not be unattended to for want of appreciation on the part of the present or any other Imperial Administration. (*Cheers.*)

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that, from the slight acquaintance he had had with Mr. Jenkins, he had formed a very favourable opinion of him. He believed that, with experience of official life, whether at our expense or not, he would be a very useful man. He believed him to be a talented and able man, and thought that when he knew that as Agent General of Canada his declamations might be productive of serious injury to this country, he would abstain from making any such declamations. Whilst he had had occasion to differ from him in some of his utterances, he must say that he was a man of undoubted talent. He did not wish to be understood that he condemned the appointment; in fact, he highly approved of it.

The sentiments to which Mr. Jenkins gave utterance in December last in Halifax were, he was sure, not those of Canada. He advocated the unification of the colonies, and, in doing so, had clothed his ideas in language which had carried away his audience, evidencing as it did, great literary and forecast talents. He did not think that his utterances would be absolutely detrimental to the country; but he thought the Prime Minister should warn him only to propound theories which he knew to be in accordance with the feeling of the public of Canada, the country which he represented. He did not wish to be hostile to Mr. Jenkins, but only to draw attention to the course which he had taken.

He spoke of Mr. Jenkins having advocated an united empire of which he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) believed the great mass of our people disapproved. Of all the colonies, nineteen-twentieths had nothing in common. It was for us to look after ourselves, and keep from European or African complications. We must govern Canada for the Canadians. We wanted to have a voice in the regulation of our own taxation, and it was well known that now we had taxation enough without any necessity for it. We wanted to have men on our Treasury benches who would be responsible for the course pursued. He would again say that he rather approved of Mr. Jenkins appointment; but he must be warned against propounding his philosophical theories whilst acting as our representative, before consulting Canada.

Mr. BROUSE thought the Government ought to have a financial agent in London. We now paid $50,000 a year to an agent in England for brokerage, and if we had to raise, as was stated, $49,000,000 by way of loan, we should have to pay $100,000 brokerage. A great deal of money would be saved if we had a financial agent of our own.

The item passed.

The following items passed:—

Assisting immigration and giving aid to Mennonites, $245,000; pensions $15,178.

On the item of $953,500 for Militia,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in answer to Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, stated that the only steps taken in regard to the appointment of the head of the staff had been to communicate with certain parties in England. The Commander-in-Chief and a former Adjutant General now resident in England had been communicated with, with a view to obtaining information as to the most efficient man but the Government had not yet fixed upon the man.

In answer to Mr. Bowell,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said his duties would be the general field supervision of our Volunteers, Lieut.-Col. Powell continuing the clerical and Departmental duties of the office.

In reply to Mr. Jones (Halifax),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government could not maintain an Inspector of Artillery in all the Military Districts. Such officers would, however, be maintained in certain localities.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) hoped they would be maintained in the Maritime Provinces, artillery being their principal means of defence.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Cameron (Cardwell),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Major-General in command would only have one aide-de-camp. He promised to give full consideration to Col. Jones's suggestions as to artillery in the Maritime Provinces.

Public works and buildings chargeable to capital $11,606,625; ocean and river service, $273,863.

* * *

REGISTRATION AND SHIPPING

Upon the item for a Canadian Register and classification of shipping.

Mr. GOUDGE said the opinion of this country was that a Canadian register was unnecessary.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) explained that this was a revote. The question of a Canadian register was now under the consideration of the Government, and if this register were established, it would not be made compulsory.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said a Canadian register was not only unnecessary, but was not desired by our people.

Mr. DAVIES said the matter should be left alone.

Mr. McLEOD said this was a most important proposition. He was opposed to the institution of a Canadian Lloyd's.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the question of a Canadian Lloyd's would have due consideration by the Government before any action was taken.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL complained that in the past the English Lloyd's had been most illiberal to Canadian shipbuilders, and had become so unjust to most parties that a French Lloyd's had been established, which had been productive of very much relief. He

contended that there existed a strong public sentiment in favour of the establishment of a Canadian Lloyd's, and said that if he moved for papers, he could show that this was the case. A deputation from St. John, including the member for Kent (Mr. McLeod), had come to Ottawa to urge the establishment of a Canadian Lloyd's. He contended also that the legislation of the English Government had been in the direction of ruining Canadian shipping, owing to the vigorous nature of the examination and the other requirements.

Mr. McLEOD said it was only Canadian vessels not registered in the English Lloyd's that were subject to examination.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said any Canadian vessel was liable to examination, whether classed in the Bureau Veritas or not, by officers of the Board of Trade. His (Hon. Mr. Mitchell's) action had had the effect of arresting very unfair legislation of the British Parliament. He said that Mr. McLeod was one of a deputation from St. John who came here to ask relief from the Plimsoll Bill. They asked him (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) to establish a Canadian Lloyd's, and he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) had told them he had a bill to this effect prepared. He denied that he had ever had any idea of making this law compulsory.

He severely took to task the men who, whilst they were in danger of being affected by the Plimsoll Bill, urgently desired a Canadian Lloyd's but now, when the danger was over, deliberately went to work to oppose it. He believed they were influenced in this course by the French Lloyd's, who, having the rating of most of our Canadian ships, had the power of blackballing any ships which they pleased, and threatened to pursue this course towards those who favoured a Canadian Lloyd's.

He contended that Canada was perfectly able and competent to legislate for the classification of her own vessels, without leaving such an important matter in the hands of foreigners such as the proprietors of the French Lloyd's, who were reaping thousands of dollars for services which could not be found here. He went on to say that the English Lloyd's approved of this measure, and had tendered all the help they could possibly afford. He asked that, before the law was done away with and a Canadian Lloyd's abandoned, there should be further consideration for the matter. The law had been passed. Let a Canadian Lloyd's be tried, and he was satisfied it would not be disapproved of.

Mr. McLEOD said the delegation from the St. John Board of Trade never asked that a Canadian Lloyd's be established. They asked the Government to interfere and prevent Mr. Plimsoll's law from coming into operation, unless the Bureau Veritas were placed on the same footing as the English Lloyd's. He denied that he had advocated the establishment of a Canadian Lloyd's and that he had seen a draft of Mr. Mitchell's measure.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) thought the establishment of a Canadian Lloyd's was premature. It could not be pretended that even though a vessel had been surveyed by a Canadian Lloyd's, she might not be surveyed again on complaint being made before the British Board of Trade. It was natural, though, for the Canadian ship owner to ask that the Bureau Veritas be placed in the same position as the British Lloyd's, no more than which was required.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL, in reply, said that it was perfectly competent for this Government to establish a Canadian Lloyd's, and to negotiate with the British authorities to have it placed on the same footing as the British Lloyd's. He charged the gentlemen opposite with having brought pressure to bear against his measure through allegations that it was intended to make it compulsory.

It being six o'clock, the House rose.

AFTER RECESS

BILLS INTRODUCED

Hon. Mr. DORION introduced a bill to amend the Act respecting administration of justice, and for the establishment of a police force in the Northwest Territory; also, a bill for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths; also, a bill to amend the Extradition Act of 1873.

* * *

CONCURRENCE IN SUPPLY

The House again considered concurrence in supply, in reference to the item of $120,000 for the construction of new lighthouses.

* * *

NEW LIGHTHOUSES ETC.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) read a paper giving a list of the lighthouses it was proposed to construct. The money was to be appropriated in the following manner:—$19,200 for Ontario, $21,000 for Quebec, $38,000 for Nova Scotia, $5,000 for New Brunswick, $8,000 for British Columbia, $16,000 for Prince Edward Island, $12,000 for buoys and beacons. The Government desired to be allowed to place these buoys and beacons where they were most required.

All items under the head of lighthouses and coast service, amounting to $524,930, were concurred in; as also were the items under the following heads: Fisheries, $62,185, geological surveys and observatories, $47,550; marine hospitals and sick and distressed seamen, $75,000; steamboat inspection, $14,200; Indians, $149,100.

* * *

SUPPLY

On the item of $149,100 for Indians,

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said he had received the following telegram in reference to his previous remarks in regard to concluding treaties with the Indians of the Saskatchewan:—"Reported here that you opposed treaty in Northwest. Great sensation. Is it true?" He had not opposed the making of treaties within reasonable bounds, but had considered it unnecessary and undesirable to make treaties up to the international boundary line or the Rocky Mountains during the present season.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said it would probably be necessary to conclude one treaty this season, but it was not likely that treaties would be made to cover all the area some hon. gentlemen seemed to think necessary.

The item passed.

The following items also passed:—Boundary surveys, $119,198; miscellaneous, $79,300; collection of revenues, $685,939; Excise, $227,950; culling timber, $78,800; weights and measures, $50,000; inspection of staples, $3,000; public works, $2,867,845; Post Office, $1,505,500; surveys of Dominion Lands, $100,000; minor revenues, $10,000; Pacific Railway Survey, $500,000.

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CANAL DE LA BAIE VERTE

On the item of $500,000 for Canal de la Baie Verte,

Mr. MACKAY said that he looked upon it that the country did not require the canal now, although they might some years hence. He understood that all the members from Nova Scotia and all those from New Brunswick were not in favour of the construction of the canal. Why, therefore, he would ask the Government, should they undertake such a large expenditure for opening up a canal which a very large proportion of the people of interest did not ask for? He did not believe the tolls which would be collected would nearly pay the working expenses of it, besides which there were such obstructions to navigation in the Bay of Fundy that he thought it was very undesirable to construct the Canal at the present time. He thought the money proposed to be expended on it could be more profitably spent in improving harbours, building breakwaters, and constructing railways. (*Hear, hear.*)

The item was then concurred in.

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MILITARY COLLEGE

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria), in rising to move the House into Committee on certain proposed resolutions for the establishment of a Military College in one of the garrison towns of Canada, said that the object of the Government was to have a military institution very much the same as that at West Point or the Military schools of England. An institution of this sort would, of course, be new to Canada, and must be commenced on a small scale, and with a limited number of cadets.

It was proposed that at first two cadets should be admitted from each Military District, so that the total number would not exceed in the first year more than twenty-two or twenty-four. The officers would be, at first, a commandant, two professors, and such other officers as would be necessary to carry on the College on the scale indicated. It was proposed to admit the cadets between the ages of 16 and 21, and to continue their course of instruction four years. At the expiration of every year the same number would be admitted at the commencement, and a certain number would be prepared to leave. It was not to be supposed that all who entered the school would continue to receive instruction during the full time. Some would be found to be fit to instruct the other cadets, and some might become discouraged and ask permission to leave the school. The number he had mentioned would be kept up, however, and the Government hoped that the institution would be one which would make its mark in the history of the country and produce great and beneficial results.

It was proposed that everything connected with military education, whether in the branch of artillery or in those of cavalry, engineering, and infantry, should be taught in this school, as well as such other subjects as would be necessary to qualify cadets for all the duties which they would be required to perform in connection with their profession.

Some thought that it was desirable to establish the institution near the City of Ottawa, where it would be under the supervision and direction of the Government, and open to the inspection of members of Parliament; but, for several reasons, it was not desirable that this view should be entertained, and it was the intention of Government to prepare such buildings as they now have at their disposal in some one of the garrison towns of the country, and there locate the College.

It was impossible to say at the onset what the expense of this new institution was going to be. Of course, the salary of the Professors and of the Commandant must be known and stated. A certain amount would be placed to the credit of the cadets, and out of this they would have to live according to military rule and system. It was supposed that the expense for the first year would be about $8,000.

Correspondence he had received from all parts of the Dominion stated that there would be no inducement held out to young men to attend this institution, because there would be no use, after they had left it, for the education they had received. If they looked at the history of the United States, however, they would find that the men who had been educated at West Point had occupied very prominent positions in different parts of the Union, and been connected with different industries of the country. Some of them had attained high positions as engineers; some of them had distinguished themselves in one branch of education, some in another; some of them even turned clergymen after they finished their education at College, and therefore the Church, as well as the State, might receive benefit from the institution which this Government proposed to establish. (*Hear, hear.*) In this country they found that a great many of our officers who had come out from England were getting to be old men, and some of our cadets might look forward to occupying the positions in the Imperial army formerly occupied by these men. Some of these young men might also wish to distinguish themselves in Parliament. Some of them might, in future, fill the office which he (Hon. Mr. Ross) now did, and some of them might occupy the position now held by the Hon. the Minister of Public Works. (*Hear, hear.*)

He would not now go fully into the details of the scheme, because he would take the opportunity of explaining the Bill when it came before the House. He was happy to say that the large amount of correspondence he had received showed that this new West Point, as he might call it, had become very popular already.

When the Bill was introduced it would receive, he had no doubt, the consideration from both sides of the House that it would deserve, and be made as perfect as possible. He moved that the Speaker do now leave the chair.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asked how the cadets would be selected.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said that they would be selected by a Board of Examiners.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said in order that there might be no confusing of our new military school with that at West Point, it would be well to place it at an east point. (*Hear, hear.*) He thought that there was no city which could offer advantages equal to those of Halifax as a place for a school of this character, it being the only garrison town we now possessed, and the cadets would have the opportunity there of obtaining instructions from members of the British army. At that city cadets would have the advantage of witnessing the evolution of all branches of the regular service.

Mr. DOMVILLE asked how cadets would be admitted into the College, by nomination of persons having patronage at their disposal, or by competitive examination.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said that there would be a Board of Examiners, and those who wished to get into the College would have to pass an examination with regard to their educational standing. They would also have to pass a medical examination.

Mr. DOMVILLE did not know how the Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross) proposed to turn out clergymen and doctors, as well as officers of infantry, artillery and engineers from this single school, when there was a school for every branch of the service in England, and cadets were not admitted into them after the age of eighteen years.

Mr. MASSON thought that the location of the College might very well be left to the Government. He congratulated the Government on having determined to provide for the defence of the country as they proposed and thus adopted the policy of the predecessors.

We were now entering upon a new era in public affairs. It seemed that we were now going to have a regular permanent military organization. He said that this idea had been brought up several years ago, but the present Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) and the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) had taken strong ground against it. Now he was glad to see that they were coming to the view he had years ago entertained. He congratulated the Government upon their reaction in this matter. He thought they had only done their duty.

Mr. BOWELL asked if when this College was established the different military schools now open would be abolished. With reference to the place at which this College would be situated, he hoped that the leader of the Government would be consistent, and not locate it without the consent of the House.

In reply to Mr. Bowell,

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said it would be some time before the college could be properly established, and the Government could not yet say what they would do with the present schools.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE thanked the member for Terrebonne (Mr. Masson) for his cordial congratulations of the Government on the adoption of this scheme, but he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had been under the impression that he was the originator of this scheme himself.

With reference to the remarks of the hon. member for King's (Mr. Domville), he reminded that hon. gentleman that officers were educated in West Point College in artillery, in infantry, in cavalry, and in engineering, and these gentlemen had not only proved themselves during the war to be good soldiers, but, during the survey for the American Pacific Railway, excellent engineers. He thought some of the gentlemen educated in our military college might be employed in connection with the great public works we were about to enter upon, and if unfortunately it ever became necessary to send a large force into the field, they would be available as officers for it.

The only objection to this proposition was the want of a regular army. He did not favour the establishment of a regular army at present, but advocated the training of men to take commands when occasion required.

He admitted that this was to an extent an experiment, but it was one they felt bound to entertain. We had to provide the nucleus of a staff of officers whose training would give confidence to the men under their command. If the experiment were not successful it could be done away with or modified after a few years.

In reply to the reminder of the hon. member from Hastings North (Mr. Bowell), he said he was ready to admit that when a Government asked for a sum of money for public buildings they should give the fullest information as to where it was to be expended, but in this case the money had already been voted.

With reference to the location of the school, he said that the Government were under the impression that they could establish the college without any other expenditure than that for Commandant, professors, and allowances to cadets.

Mr. WALKER advocated the claims of London to the location of the college in that city. The opinion had been freely expressed to him by friends, who, like him, were greatly interested in the Militia of Canada, that the Government were taking the right direction.

He hoped that the Government, employing young men studying at this school, would lead to all civil service employees having to pass a competitive examination. He spoke of the necessity of increasing the pay to the men composing the Militia, and of the uselessness of drill at headquarters. It should always be done in brigade camps. He thought an expenditure for the purpose of a Military College was justifiable in every respect.

He would suggest to Government that if instead of calling out for training each year the full force of each company they would require only a portion of men to come out, they would be able

without any additional expenditure to pay the men who did drill more than they had hitherto received, and while they would then have a large proportion of the whole enrolled force of the country well trained, they would still have as many to call upon when they required them as hitherto.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK, whilst he approved of the resolution now introduced, hoped that this would not be the only amendment introduced by the Hon. the Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross) with regard to our militia laws. He objected to the constitution of the Board of Examiners, as he thought that the appointment of cadets in the way proposed might be made a matter of political patronage.

He thought the College should not be placed in a large city, where the morals of young men were more likely to be injured than in a small town, such as those in which the military schools of England were situated. He suggested Kingston as a suitable place for the location of the College.

After one or two remarks from **Mr. PICKARD**,

Mr. CASEY, who thought the appropriation of this sum altogether unnecessary, said he thought the general idea of a Military College was a good one, but Government ought to see that the scheme did not lose its benefits as ordinary Military Schools had by the cadets going into other occupations. He was of opinion that no one should be admitted to this College who was not provisionally attached to some company as an officer. He supported the view that a competitive examination should also be passed before admission to the school could be obtained, in order to avoid political nominations.

There was no doubt that the militia was not now in the state of efficiency which was desirable, and the principal reason for this was that there was such a great difference in the personnel of the corps that went under drill each year. He thought the only remedy for this was to merge all the Volunteer forces into one, and to make everyone liable to serve. The present time devoted to drill in camp was too short. He thought everyone who enlisted should be compelled to serve his three years, and should not be allowed to re-enlist, so that new blood should be introduced.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) agreed with the member for Terrebonne that the establishment of this Military College implied the establishment of a standing army. He thought the Government were commencing at the wrong end. They were about providing for an army of officers, whilst the army of men was becoming more and more reduced. Under the present system he contended that only a smattering of military education could be imparted, and he protested against this measure, because he thought the money intended to be spent in the education of these cadets might be expended in a way that would conduce more to the efficiency of the militia.

Mr. MOSS said the members from the Maritime Provinces were so peaceable and non-combative that he thought it would be impossible to place such a warlike establishment in those Provinces. Discussion of the site of the College was premature.

Mr. McGREGOR recommended Amherstburg as a suitable site for the College.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that Government could advantageously strike off half a million in addition to the half million they had already struck off. If we got a reciprocity treaty there would be still more reason for making a further reduction. This playing at soldiers was unnecessary in a country like this, though it might be necessary to have a military force in the Northwest. He did not justify expenditures of the late Government in the past year, and thought a considerable reduction might have been made in the Militia estimates.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) said that in Manitoba they had the advantage of a standing army of 250 men, which was well manned, well officered, and a credit to the country. He suggested the Military College should be established in Winnipeg.

Mr. FORBES thought it was a step in the right direction, the volunteer system having proved a failure, and he entirely approved of a school where officers could be instructed in their duty. He was sure the country would hail it with satisfaction, and believed it would eventually prove of great service to the country. If the College was to be anything like as successful as was anticipated, he thought it ought to be established in Halifax.

Mr. IRVING said he believed his constituents would support him in saying that Hamilton was not a rival for this College. It was important that it should be situated amid historic associations, such as those which clung to Halifax, Montreal, or Quebec. He objected to having West Point constantly thrust down their throats. While admitting the ability of American officers, he could not forget that we had Woolwich, Sandhurst, and Addiscombe. He thought there were more places than those proposed which could be advantageously used as the centre of education for their young men. There were other things to do, he contended, than playing at soldiers, and he hoped that the very ablest men would be placed in command over them.

He looked at an Engineering College as very unfit, but he saw no great difficulty in young men being taught the three arms of the services in the time allotted. He refuted the objection of one member that four years was not long enough to instruct the young men in those branches of the service.

Mr. GILLMOR wished to remind the Government that there was such a place as Charlotte County, which was on the boundary. Here the College could face the enemy. He regretted that so large an expenditure was necessary for military purposes.

The House then went into Committee, **Mr. De VEBER** in the chair.

The resolutions were adopted, reported, and concurred in. A Bill founded thereon was then introduced, and read a first time.

* * *

PACIFIC RAILWAY AND CANAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorize the raising by way of loan for the purpose of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the improvement and enlargement of the Canadian canals, of a sum of money, not exceeding eight million pounds sterling.

2nd. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that such portions of the said loan as shall not be raised upon the guarantee of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, as mentioned in the following resolutions, may be raised in such manner as the Governor in Council may direct under the provisions of the Act 35 Vic., Cap. 6, entitled "An Act respecting the public debt and raising of loans authorized by Parliament", and that the principal and interest thereof shall be chargeable upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada.

3rd. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that of the said sum of eight million pounds, a sum not exceeding 3,600,000 pounds may be raised with the guarantee of the Treasury under the Imperial Act known as "The Canada (Public Works) Loan Act, 1873," in such manner and form, and on such conditions as they think fit, at a rate of interest not exceeding four per cent per annum, and subject to the following provisions: The Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with the payment of the principal and interest of any loan guaranteed by the Treasury, under said the Imperial Act, immediately after the charge for the loan of the sum of three hundred thousand pounds sterling, payable to the Hudson's Bay Company, created by the Act of the Parliament of Canada, 32 and 33 Vic., Cap. 1.

The Government of Canada shall pay a sinking fund at the rate of one per cent per annum on the entire amount of the loan guaranteed by the Treasury as aforesaid, and the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with the payment of such sinking fund immediately after the principal and interest of each last-mentioned loan. The Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada shall be charged with any sum issued out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom under the Canada (Public Works) Loan Act, 1873, with interest thereon, at the rate of five per cent per annum, immediately after the said Sinking Fund. Due payment and application of the money raised by any loan guaranteed by the Treaty under the Act last mentioned shall be assumed and certified in such manner as the Treasury may from time to time direct. The annual sums for the Sinking Fund shall be remitted to the Treasury by half-yearly payments in such manner as they from time to time direct, and for the investment and accumulation thereof under their direction, in the names of four trustees nominated from time to time—two by the Treasury and two by the Government of Canada. The said sinking fund may be invested only in such securities as the Government of Canada and the Treasury from time to time agree upon, and shall, whether invested or not, be applied from time to time under the direction of the Treasury, in discharging the principal of the loan guaranteed by the Treasury as aforesaid, and the interest arising from such securities (including the interest accruing in respect of any part of any loan discharged by means of the said sinking fund) and the resulting income thereof shall be invested and applied as part of such sinking fund.

4th. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide that, subject to the foregoing provisions as aforesaid, the moneys raised shall be applied and expended for the purposes mentioned in the preceding resolutions, only in such manner and in such proportions as the Parliament of Canada may have authorized, and that a detailed account of all moneys so expended shall be laid before the House of Commons of Canada during the first fifteen days of the then next session of the Canadian Parliament.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the object of the Government was not necessarily to borrow this large sum of money at once, but under the terms of the Imperial Guarantee Act it was found desirable to ask for power to borrow an amount not exceeding eight million pounds sterling. The object was simply to put the Government in a position to claim, if they required it, a certain portion of the Imperial guaranteed loan.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked the Finance Minister whether that Imperial guarantee was not based on the supposition that the Canadian Pacific Railway was to be constructed from the existing Canadian system of railways to the shore of the Pacific. If that was so, he would like to know whether there had been any correspondence with the Imperial Government on the subject, or whether any assurance that the modified scheme would receive the assent of the Imperial Government had been received, and whether they would get a loan in consequence of that modified arrangement.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that under the Canada (Public Works) Loan Act, the guarantee was for the construction of our canals as well as of the Pacific Railway, and we were entitled to claim at least a portion of the guarantee. He did not think the Imperial Government were likely to refuse to consider the application.

Mr. YOUNG thought it unfortunate that any member of the House should have suggested any doubts on this subject. He thought the common sense, practical way in which the present Government intended to deal with the matter would commend it to the Imperial Government.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the country was pledged to a large expenditure of money on important public works, and there was no doubt that it was to the advantage of the country, and to the interest of every person, that the money immediately wanted should be raised.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL, in answer to Mr. Young, said it was his duty to see that every proper information was given to the people, and although perhaps he might rise from his seat a good many times, yet he endeavoured never to do so unless he felt the necessity.

The House then went into Committee, **Mr. YOUNG** in the chair.

The resolutions were adopted, reported and concurred in. A bill founded on them was introduced, and read a first time.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT, in the absence of Hon. Mr. Dorion, moved the House into Committee on certain resolutions on the subject of the salary of the Lieutenant-Governor and Judges of Prince Edward Island, and the Judges of New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario, **Mr. YOUNG** in the Chair.

The resolutions were adopted, reported and concurred in; a Bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) moved the second reading of the Bill to continue for a limited time certain temporary provisions in the Act respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion of Canada.—Carried.

* * *

SECURITY OF PASSENGERS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)** the House went into Committee on the resolution "That it is expedient further to amend Act 31 Vic., Cap. 65, respecting the inspection of steamboats, and for the greater safety of passengers by them".

The resolution passed.

The Committee also passed a resolution declaring it expedient to provide for the examination of masters and mates to act on board ships registered in Canada, et cetera.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) introduced bills based on these resolutions, which were read a first time.

* * *

PASSED A STAGE

The following measure passed a stage:

The bill to amend the Pilotage Act, 1873.—**Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**.

The bill to exempt transports from port and harbour dues.—**Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**.

The bill respecting carriers by water and their liabilities to shippers.—**Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**.

The bill for the removal of obstructions by wrecks and like causes in the navigable waters of Canada and for other purposes relative to wrecks.—**Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**.

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INSPECTION ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER moved the House into Committee on the resolution: That it is expedient to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 49, entitled "The Act to amend and consolidate, and to extend to the whole Dominion of Canada, the laws respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce"; and to incorporate the amendments in one Act with the remaining provisions of the Act amended.

The resolution was reported and concurred in and a bill founded on it was introduced and read a first time.

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NOVA SCOTIA SUBSIDY

The House went into Committee on a resolution declaring the intention of the first section of Act 36 Vic., Cap. 30, to be that the increased subsidy to be allowed to the Province of Nova Scotia under the said Act should be based upon the sum of $9,186,756, as if that sum had been mentioned in the 114th section of the British North America Act, 1867, instead of the sum of $8,000,000.

The House went into Committee, **Mr. YOUNG** in the chair, and adopted and reported the resolution.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT then introduced a bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time; and the second reading was appointed for tomorrow.

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INSPECTION OF STEAMBOATS

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution further to amend the Act. 31 Vic., Cap. 65, respecting the Inspection of Steamboats, and for the greater safety of passengers by them; and also declaring it expedient to provide for the examination of masters and mates to act onboard ships registered in Canada, et cetera. He briefly explained the provisions of the Bill he proposed to introduce, stating that a certain qualification would be required for officers on board inland steamers, and the provisions now in force with regard to coasting and foreign going vessels of large tonnage would be applied to those of smaller tonnage.

The resolutions were carried and reported, and Bills were introduced and founded upon them.

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PETITIONS

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) presented petitions asking the House to allow him to introduce bills to incorporate the Bank of Manitoba and the Central Canada Telegraph Company, notwithstanding that the time for receiving petitions for private Bills had expired.

The motion was agreed to, and the petitions were read and referred to the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

LONDON AND CANADA BANK

The House went into Committee, and passed the following bill, which was then read a third time: The bill to incorporate the London and Canada Bank.—**Mr. ROSS (Durham East)**.

ONTARIO BANK

The second reading of the bill to amend the Act passed in the thirty-fourth year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled, "An Act to amend and explain the Act to amend the charter of the Ontario Bank," was moved by **Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)**, and carried.

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MARITIME INSURANCE COMPANY

To incorporate the Maritime Insurance Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce—**Mr. MACKENZIE (Montreal West)**.

The House adjourned at 1.30 a.m.

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NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. COOK—Wednesday next—Address to His Excellency the Governor General for copies of all reports, orders, and correspondence between the Militia authorities and the Militia or any other Department in reference to the Military movements on Niagara frontier in the year 1866.

Mr. IRVING—Wednesday next—That a Select Committee be appointed to consider what changes it is desirable to make in an Act to amend the Criminal Law relating to violence, threats and molestation, 35 Vic., Cap. 31; that such Committee consist of Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald and Messrs. Laflamme, Mackay, De Veber, Moss, Jetté, and the mover.

Mr. MILLS—On Wednesday next—That an humble Address be presented to the Governor General for all correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario in reference to certain provisions of the Municipal Act of that Province, in which municipal bodies are empowered to impose discriminating taxes upon the trade with other Provinces and with foreign countries.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)—On Wednesday next—That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency for a full statement of all the expenses connected with the issuing of the Royal Commission entrusted with the examination of the charges made by the Hon. Mr. Huntington against the late Administration, the statement to contain the amounts paid and the persons to whom paid.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South)—Wednesday next—Motion for leave to introduce a Bill to make voting at elections for members of the Commons compulsory.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)—Wednesday next—Motion for concurrence in the third report of the Joint Committee of both Houses on the printing of Parliament.

Mr. WILKES—Wednesday next—That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that a statement be laid before this House showing the amount of Dominion and Provincial notes issued on the lst January and the lst of July in each year from 1868 to this date, with the amount of such notes at each period held by the chartered banks as reserve, and the amount of specie held by the Receiver General at each period? Also a return of the circulation and paid-up capital of the chartered banks at each period; and also the estimated cost of the Dominion note circulation in connection with the Receiver General's department with an estimate of the net gain to the revenue by the Dominion circulation.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 6, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions were presented praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

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REPORTS

The following reports were presented:—

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—The fourth report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce, reporting several bills.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK—The second report of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:—

By **Mr. DONAHUE**—To incorporate the St. John's (Quebec) Board of Trade.

By **Mr. MOSS**—To extend the powers of the Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented a return of the Order in Council making appointments since August last; also a return showing the population and amount of imports for Ingonish South, Cape Breton, for the past year.

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MILITIA EXPENDITURE

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT presented a return of the Militia expenditure up to the 31st March, 1874.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA MAIL SERVICE

Mr. De COSMOS asked why the Government ordered that no bullion or treasure should be sent by mail from Cariboo to Victoria, and vice versa; was Government in possession of any information at the time such order was made showing the decrease such order would make in the revenue of the Postal Department?

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) replied in a voice that was almost inaudible in the gallery. He was understood to say that it had become dangerous, in the interest of the Department, to send bullion by that means. It involved too much expense because of the necessity of additional conveyances. The consequent decrease in the revenue was not so much taken into consideration as the safety of the carrying of the mails.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA PARCEL POST

Mr. De COSMOS enquired why the parcel post between Victoria and Cariboo and way stations and vice versa was suspended in 1873-1874; was there any provision in the contracts for carrying the mails between those points that authorized the postal department to stop the parcel post?

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said in reply to the first portion of the question that it was done in the interests of postal service; but the latter portion of his reply was perfectly inaudible.

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FEDERATION OF THE COLONIES

Mr. De COSMOS said he had once or twice postponed the motion he had given notice of, that a respectful Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that he may be pleased to open negotiations with the Imperial Government for the purpose of learning on what conditions the Dominion of Canada might be admitted to a full and complete share in all the national rights, powers, privileges, and responsibilities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that the result of such negotiations be communicated to Parliament early in the next session.

He had now to say, in view of the expression of opinion by the Prime Minister the other evening with regard to the commencement of the Pacific Railway, that he considered this would be an inopportune moment for him to bring this matter forward. It was evident that the Government were not working in harmony under the Federal principle. Therefore he deemed it an inopportune moment to ask the Imperial Government to enlarge a principle which, in our limited sphere had, as he had said, not worked satisfactorily. He therefore begged to withdraw his motion for the present.

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NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LAW

Mr. COSTIGAN moved for an address to Her Majesty, representing "That it is essential to the peace and prosperity of the Dominion of Canada that the several religions therein prevailing should be followed in perfect harmony by those professing them, in

accord with each other, and that every law passed either by this Parliament or by the Local Legislature disregarding the rights and usages tolerated by any one of such religions is of a nature to destroy that harmony; that the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in 1871 adopted a law respecting common schools, forbidding the imparting of any religious education to pupils, and that prohibition is opposed to the sentiments of the entire population of the Dominion in general, and to the religious convictions of the Roman Catholic population in particular; that the Roman Catholics of New Brunswick cannot conscientiously send their children to schools established under such a law and are nevertheless compelled, like the remainder of the population, to pay taxes to be devoted to the maintenance of these schools; that the said law is unjust and contrary to the spirit of the Constitution, and causes much uneasiness among the Roman Catholic population disseminated throughout the whole Dominion of Canada; and that such a state of affairs, if continued, is likely to prove the cause of disastrous results to all the confederated Provinces; and praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to cause an Act to be passed amending the British North America Act, 1867, in the sense which this House believes to have been intended at the time of the passage of such Act, by providing that every religious denomination in the Province of New Brunswick shall continue to possess and enjoy all such rights, advantages and privileges with regard to their schools as such denomination possessed and enjoyed in that Province at the time of the passage of the said last-mentioned Act, to the same extent as if such rights advantages and privileges had been then duly established by law."

He entered into a history of the school question in the Province of New Brunswick since 1858, as well as of the legislation which had taken place upon it, but most of his remarks were inaudible in the gallery. He quoted the votes and proceedings of the New Brunswick Legislature, and then, referring to the vote on the subject in this House in 1872, said it was not a Catholic vote, but was made up equally of as many Protestants as Catholics. The late Government was very much embarrassed by the vote on that occasion.

Mr. PICKARD: They need not have been embarrassed, nor need they feel embarrassed now.

Mr. COSTIGAN contended that they were embarrassed, and justly so, by the position taken by the hon. member for York (Mr. Pickard) and his eleven New Brunswick Associates. Had the Act been disallowed after the vote of 1873, he contended that the position of affairs would have been far simpler than today; but, except for the refusal of the Government to carry out the wishes of the House, the position was much the same. To cover the difficulty, he now proposed an amendment to the constitution, a course which he justified by reference to the amendment to the constitution in favour of Nova Scotia. Some members took strong ground against the disallowance of local Acts, thinking it a great outrage, but it was not any greater outrage in a sense than the disallowing of Dominion Acts by the Imperial Government, as, for instance, in the case of the salary of the Governor General, which was disallowed by the Imperial authorities.

He would be prepared to let the matter await the decision of the people at the elections. If there was any reason, he hoped that it would be fairly considered; but he was sure that every issue but this would be brought before the people for their decision. He denied any desire to embarrass the Government whatsoever. Had the former Government been in power, his course would have been the same. He felt himself bound to advocate this question, his desire being to place the minority in this Province in a proper position.

The resolution was seconded by **Mr. WRIGHT (Ottawa County)**.

Mr. DESJARDINS moved, seconded by **Mr. OUIMET**, that the discussion on this subject be postponed till Monday next.

Mr. COSTIGAN had no objections to the motion, which was carried.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. DORION presented the report of the Commissioners to the Vienna Exposition; also, papers in connection with the Yale–Kootenay election; also, correspondence on the subject of the salaries of judges in the different Provinces.

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SALARIES IN THE CUSTOMS

Mr. FORBES moved for a return of all the officers in the Customs department of Nova Scotia since first July last who have received an increase of salary under the provision of the Act 36 Vic., by which a certain sum was provided for the increase of the pay to the civil service outside the employees of the House.—Carried.

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TREATY OF WASHINGTON

Mr. PALMER moved for all despatches on the subject of the appointment of the Commissioners referred to in the 22nd article of the Treaty of Washington. The production of these papers would satisfy the people of Canada as to the reason for the delay in carrying out the arrangements.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE asked that this motion be not pressed. It was inexpedient in the public interest to have the question now discussed.

The motion was withdrawn.

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OTTAWA SHIP CANAL

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) moved for the reprinting of the reports of the surveying of the line of route of the Ottawa Ship Canal made by Messrs. Shanly and Clarke, Civil Engineers.

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TELEGRAPH LINES IN NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. GOUDGE moved for a copy of the petition and all other papers upon which the Montreal Telegraph Company based their application to this House for increased powers to extend their

operations to all parts of the Dominion, and especially to Nova Scotia, and upon which representation an Act passed this House conferring those powers.

He said that when last this Company applied for such powers, they complained that the accommodation given by the Western Union Telegraph Company was inadequate, was too expensive, and further that a portion of the connection with Canada did not pass over British soil. Twelve months had elapsed; yet this much-needed accommodation had not been afforded. Indeed, he had been informed that an arrangement had been entered into with the Western Union Company to increase their rates and afford no extra service. He was happy to say, however, that today he had learned that another Company was seeking powers to lay lines in Nova Scotia, which he hoped would be granted. He should, therefore, with the permission of the House, withdraw this motion.

Mr. PALMER said he had predicted last year that the Montreal Company wanted to do just what they had done if granted these powers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government could not consent to this motion.

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AMHERST HARBOUR

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE moved for a copies of correspondence, reports, and plans relating to Amherst Harbour and Havre aux Maisons.—Carried.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA MAILS

Mr. De COSMOS moved for a copy of the advertisement calling for tenders to carry the mails in British Columbia, published in 1872 in the said Province, and a copy of the tenders received, with the papers and reports relating to the tenders, and the names of the person to whom the respective contracts were awarded and those of their securities.—Carried.

* * *

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S FOOT GUARDS

Mr. WALKER moved that a respectful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that he may be pleased to order that the Militia General Order under date the 8th June, 1872, whereby the Governor General's Foot Guards were granted precedence over all other battalions of militia in the Dominion, be revoked, the said General Order being contrary to the Queen's Regulations as approved by the Governor in Council.

In support of his motion he read the following correspondence on the subject:—

Ottawa, June 5th, 1872.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit to you for the consideration of the Hon. the Minister of Militia and Defence the propriety of raising in this city a volunteer force of Infantry to be called the Governor General's Guards. I would remark that companies could be at once raised and officered, whose services would be at the disposal of the Government on all occasions of State or otherwise, as the case may be. I am prepared to carry into effect this proposition. The same arrangement might be effected towards the new organization, as is carried out in the Grand Trunk Brigade, the regiment to remain to be drilled at headquarters, and to be under the immediate command of the Adjutant General. I would suggest that as near as practicable the battalion be clothed similar to the household troops in England. I have now at my disposal the services of a band second to none in Canada, who are prepared at once to enter into the new battalion. The absence of Queen's troops at the Capital, and the great blank caused by the lack of military music at the Government House, et cetera, induce me to hope that the Minister of Militia will be enabled to grant my request. I have the honour to be, Sir your obedient servant,

Thos. Ross, Major.

Headquarters, Ottawa, June 7, 1872.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward and recommend that the enclosed order from Major Ross to raise a special corps of infantry as a battalion of Foot Guards, be accepted. The proposal of Major Ross is well calculated to obviate the difficulty sometimes experienced of providing the necessary guards of honour at the opening and closing of the Dominion Parliament, and on other occasions of State ceremonial at which His Excellency the Governor General, as the representative of Her Majesty, may have to be present. By the arrangement proposed there is every reason to suppose that the services of a skilled band of music would be always available on such occasions, and as I quite concur in the views set forth by Major Ross, I have the honour to request authority to take the necessary steps to carry out the proposed arrangements.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. Robertson Ross,

Col. Adjt-Gen. Militia.

The Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence.

Extract from Militia General Orders No. 16, 8th June, 1872, 1st Battalion Governor General's Foot Guards—The formation of a Battalion of Foot Guards at Headquarters, Ottawa, to be designated the lst Battalion of the Governor General's Foot Guards, is hereby authorized to be raised by Major T. Ross; this corps to be special and under the direct orders of the Adjutant General at headquarters, and to have the same precedence and status in the active militia of the Dominion as is held by Her Majesty's Foot Guards in the Imperial Army.

He (Mr. Walker) hoped that the House would give relief from the consequences of this illegal act by consenting to his motion. He quoted from the rules and regulations, showing that under authority of the Governor in Council there was a distinct and well-defined rule that date of formation was the only legal basis of precedence and rank. He disclaimed all intention of making any attack on the personal trappings of the Foot Guards, although a good deal might

be said about the latter, and in a humorous way alluded to some of their peculiarities.

He hoped that, seeing the Government seemed anxious to make the militia force generally more efficient, and to get the best possible value for the expenditure, and seeing also that it was considered most desirable, if possible, to keep up the force on a voluntary basis, the Government would assist in removing any grievance that existed and that was brought to their notice in a proper manner. He moved for a return which, when it came down, he found to consist of letters relating to the footing of the Foot Guards. The only authority for the formation of the corps appeared to be a letter of the late Adjutant General. This corps had, contrary to the usual practice, been given precedence over all the other militia regiments. The Guards had adopted a uniform to which they had no right, and the Colour Sergeants wore upon their arms the figure of the Sphinx, which had been conceded to the English Guard for their services in Egypt. It was only reasonable that this grievance should be remedied, and he hoped Government would consider his request a reasonable one.

He thought the old militia uniform was good enough for any purpose. It had been seen on the frontier in times of danger and he thought they should be proud of it, instead of introducing another and a strange uniform.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no doubt his hon. friend would see that this was a matter of discipline which had to be considered by the Government. They had listened carefully to all he had said in support of his motion, and they would feel bound to attend to the views of the militia on this subject. He asked the hon. gentleman not to proceed with his motion.

Mr. WALKER pointed out that this was the only way in which the grievance could be brought before the House, as the members of militia were prohibited from discussing or petitioning in reference to any grievance they might have.

Mr. STEPHENSON hoped the motion would not be withdrawn. He could not see why the city of Ottawa should be privileged over those who had gone to the front for years past.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD hoped the question would not be pressed to a division and that after the statement of the Premier the motion would be withdrawn. He thought the Government had a right to claim that they should have an opportunity of considering the matter.

The motion was withdrawn.

* * *

WALTON LIGHTHOUSE

Mr. GOUDGE moved for the correspondence between the Government, the late Hon. Joseph Howe, and any other person relative to the appointment of a keeper to the Walton Lighthouse. He explained that that position had been promised to Captain O'Brien, an elderly respectable man of between sixty and seventy. There was no reservation in the promise, the statement being that when the light was lit, O'Brien should receive the appointment. He affirmed that the present occupant of the situation had been appointed for Party purposes, there being some forty voters in his (Mr. Parker's) family.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL characterized Mr. Goudge's speech as a "tempest in a teapot". He repudiated the idea of having refused Capt. O'Brien's appointment, but said his idea was that Mr. Howe had expressed a doubt as to whether O'Brien would take the situation at $200, and, as Mr. Parker had taken the position at $100, he should have been doing an injustice to the country if he had given more.

Mr. GOUDGE denied that O'Brien had been offered $100, at which price he would have taken the lighthouse.

The motion carried.

At six o'clock the House rose.

AFTER RECESS

THIRD READINGS

The House went into Committee and passed the following bills, which were then read a third time:

To incorporate the Maritime Insurance Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.—**Mr. MACKENZIE (Montreal West)**.

To incorporate the Board of Trade of the Town of Ingersoll—**Mr. OLIVER**.

To incorporate the International Transportation Association—**Mr. MACKENZIE (Montreal West)**.

To amend the Act incorporating the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company—**Mr. CARON**.

To amend the Act to incorporate the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company. **Mr. DOMVILLE**.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

The bill respecting the Albion Mines Savings Bank.—**Mr. CARMICHAEL**.

The bill to incorporate the Standard Marine Insurance Company of Canada—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

The bill to incorporate the Montreal Steam Ferry Company—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

* * *

TRANSFER OF TUCKERSMITH

The House went into Committee on **Mr. CAMERON's (Huron South)** bill to amend Act 35 Vic., Cap. 13, by detaching the Township of Tuckersmith from the Centre riding and to annex it to the South riding of the County of Huron. He explained that he believed he could justify this bill by the "gerrymandering" which had been practised in regard to this constituency, but this was not his sole reason. Four-fifths of the people of the riding had petitioned

for the change, besides which it would appear that geographically Tuckersmith should be placed in the South riding. There were other reasons which he could give, but he thought those were quite sufficient.

Mr. BOWELL said he thought the party to whom the hon. gentleman belonged was in favour of representation by population, but to add Tuckersmith to the South riding of Huron would not be in accordance with that principle. He found that the Centre riding contained about 22,000 electors, and the South riding 25,211. It would therefore be manifestly unjust to still further increase the discrepancy by the addition of the Township of Tuckersmith to the South riding.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South) said that the hon. gentleman was not so anxious about this point when the constituencies were arranged by the late Government. He reproduced, amid the laughter of the House, Mr. Rymal's celebrated plan of the Centre riding of Huron.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) would like to know if the Government were going to allow Bills like this to pass through the House. If one county was to be permitted to make such changes as this, he did not see why every county should not have the same privilege.

Mr. MONTEITH endorsed the views of Mr. White.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) said that late in the session of 1872 certain townships were taken from the North riding of Renfrew and added to the South riding, for no other purpose than to serve the political ends of the late Government. (*Hear, hear.*) If these townships were re-attached to the North riding, its population would be nearly the same as that of the South riding.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK believed this to be a matter which should not be taken up by a private member. It was one which should be inaugurated, if at all, by the Ministry. He went on to say that by the British North America Act the boundaries of constituencies were not be changed except once in ten years. If this change were to take place, it could not go into force until after the close of this Parliament. The member for Huron South being petitioned against, in the event of his being unseated, the people of Tuckersmith would have two members, having already voted on the Centre Riding.

Hon. Mr. DORION referred to the changes in the constituencies of Ottawa and Hamilton, each of which elected two members on the same ticket. The object, of course, was to aid the Ministry of the day. In Toronto they had adopted a different course, dividing the city into three distinct divisions, without which, he believed, Toronto would in the last Parliament have returned no supporter of the late Government. He thought they should pass this bill now to remedy an injustice done by the late Government. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. KIRKPATRICK contended that two wrongs would not make one right. If the late Government had done wrong, it was no argument why this one should do the same.

Mr. RYMAL rose, amid laughter, with his diagram in his hand. He said that when the iniquity with regard to this county was perpetrated, he was one of those who raised his voice against it. He always thought it was the duty of a Government to redress the wrongs which had been committed by their predecessors. An outrage had undeniably been committed on the people of the South riding of Huron, and he now charged the Government with a dereliction of their duty in not having brought in a Bill to remedy the wrongs done by the late Government in their distribution of seats.

He again exhibited his diagram to the House, and pointed out a wing which he said it was now proposed to chop off. He wanted to have the wrong which had been done to his county redressed, so that if his hon. friend from Huron South (Mr. Cameron) were turned out of Parliament he would have a fair chance to come back again. He supported this measure because he believed a wrong had been perpetrated, and because it was the duty of the Government to redress these wrongs upon the first opportunity.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the Hon. the Minister of Justice was labouring under a wrong impression when he said that the late Government originated the giving of two votes to each elector. The County of Halifax, including the city, returned two members.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that arrangement was not made by the Dominion Government.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said it was done under the Union, and under the Interim Election Act. The citizens of Halifax embraced a very large Protestant and a very large Catholic population, and he was sure there was not a member of this House who would not agree with him that it was wise and judicious to prevent, when possible, large bodies of persons holding opposite opinions, either national or religious, from being brought into antagonism. If the City of Halifax, or the City of Ottawa, returned only one member each, they would on the occasion of each election have a great struggle between the Protestants and the Catholics as to who would be their representative. But, allowing them to return two, both of these important parties were in a position to be represented in the House.

He would remind the hon. member from Wentworth South (Mr. Rymal) that his diagram, which afforded the House so much amusement, would lose a great deal of its force, if it were known that its extraordinary configurations were very much owing to the arrangement of the township line and to the natural features of the County of Huron. The principle of representation by population was one of the great fundamental doctrines for which Reformers had fought and some of them died perhaps (*cheers*), and were they now to be told that the principle was to be ignored?

The figures which his hon. friend from Hastings North (Mr. Bowell) had quoted to the House showed there were about 22,000 electors in the North riding of Huron, and 25,211 in the South riding, and it was now proposed to take the township of Tuckersmith, which had about 3,000 electors, from the North riding and add it to the South riding, thus giving a representative to 19,000 electors on the one hand and only one representative to 28,000 on the other.

He could not believe that this Government, which was too strong to need to do anything of this sort, would go back on their past

professions, and show the people of the country that those professions were unfounded.

He hoped if the Bill was allowed to pass at all there would be a sufficiently strong sense of propriety among hon. members to prevent it from going into force until after this Parliament.

Mr. CURRIER said he thought the principal reason for not dividing the City of Ottawa was the existence of two races and two religions whom it was not desirable to separate. He thought equally good reason existed in Hamilton, and whenever the late Government made any changes he had no doubt there were good purposes to be accomplished.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South), in reply, showed the absurdity of the division which had been made of the County of Huron by the late Government, and showed that the division he proposed to make was the natural and proper one. He thought the last man on this earth to speak of representation by population was the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), who was a member of a Government which passed a Bill so clearly in opposition to that principle as the Bill of 1872. He showed the effect of the annexation of the Township of Dunn to the electoral district of Monck, and pointed out that any Government which could be guilty of such a political dodge could make none other than hollow pretensions to attachment to the principle of dual representation. He criticised what he considered their evident purposes in the divisions made of the counties of Wellington, Brant, Simcoe and Elgin, and he contended that with regard to all these counties, a great wrong was perpetrated for political purposes. After quoting various figures in support of his view of the cost, he enquired if the hon. member for Cumberland favoured the principle of equalization of population. He thought the bill was a fair, just and equitable one.

He had undoubted faith in the present Government, but like the hon. member for Wentworth South (Mr. Rymal), he thought they should have dealt with this question themselves. He believed, however, they had such a press of business upon their hands that they had not the time, and he therefore thought it was his duty to take it up.

Mr. FARROW characterized the hon. gentleman's argument as buncombe. He seemed to think that because others had done wrong then it was their bounden duty to do wrong too. He believed the division of the county in 1872 into three ridings was the best that could have been made under the circumstances, geographically. The divisions were equal according to population. In a political aspect the division of the county was really equal. He understood that the hon. member had stated that the Government intended to help him through with the bill.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron South): I never said anything of the kind.

Mr. FARROW said he would accept the explanation of the hon. gentleman. He thought, however, that the hon. gentleman might have waited until the next session before he proposed this division. If this division were made, the result would be immediate political warfare in the country. If the hon. gentleman was so fortunate as to get Tuckersmith added to his constituency, he would have 200 Reform votes added to the eighty-five majority he had at last election, and he would certainly have it all his own way.

He thought they ought to pause before they went any further. The bill ought not to pass at this time. It would be better if it was put off until 1881, when the division ought to take place again. By that time they would probably be entitled to more members, because now they were entitled to three and a half members. He expected in 1881 they would be entitled to four members.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD regretted very much that the hon. gentleman had assumed to bring in this bill. He also regretted that any independent member should have introduced a bill affecting the representation of Parliament. A gentleman from the Treasury Benches should have the responsibility of introducing a measure of this nature. The bill was introduced in a most unobtrusive manner, without a word of explanation, and the second reading was also moved without a single remark being made, while it was a bill affecting the representation of two constituencies.

It would be well to take into consideration the consequence of legislation of this kind. By the British North America Act of 1867, there was to be a re-adjustment of representation once in ten years. That principle should be carried out rigidly, and the time of Parliament ought not to be taken up by bills of individual members whenever the bounds of their constituencies did not happen to suit them. It would be a very unfortunate thing if this practice was going to obtain. All parties were interested in the maintenance of the constitution, and this innovation should be resisted.

If ever there was a Government which could resist the introduction of measures of this kind he thought the present Government could, because the loss of twenty or twenty-five constituencies would not affect them.

Hon. Mr. DORION: We approve of the measure. We do not resist it.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he was very sorry to hear it, because he thought the principle of re-adjustment every ten years was one which would commend itself to the majority of members in the House. The spirit of fair play to the constitution demanded that this principle should be rigidly adhered to.

He would not impugn the motives of the hon. member for Huron South (Mr. Cameron), for he had no right in a Parliamentary sense; but it would be charged outside the House—but, of course, wrongly—(*laughter*)—that the hon. gentleman was preparing to go back to his constituency by taking the township from another constituency for the purpose of swelling the small majority he had at the last election. This change would introduce a principle of great inequality in the three ridings. At present the three ridings were nearly equal in population, there being no more than a difference of 1,200 or 1,500 between any one of them. If, however, they took away Tuckersmith, it would make a difference of 6,000 between the two ridings.

Some sneers had been thrown out by hon. gentlemen opposite as to the principle of representation by population; but when the Government dealt with this subject in 1872, they had only six

additional members to give to Ontario. Therefore it would have been absurd for them to have dealt with all the constituencies. They left them as much as possible as they were before. They were told that they had committed a great iniquity with regard to Huron, to which they gave an additional member, and which they divided into three ridings instead of two. The Government thought Huron had a right to an additional member, and they gave it that additional member and divided the county into three ridings as nearly equal in population as was possible. In the addition that was last made to the number of members they had made a fair distribution.

He thoroughly opposed the possibility of a man coming to Parliament, obtaining a redistribution of representation to please himself, and then returning to a newly constituted constituency to give an account of his stewardship. He was sorry the Government had not resisted this measure, and he believed that the hon. Premier, in giving his consent, had been surprised into it by the natural desire to meet the views of an important supporter like the hon. member for Huron South.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) believed there was no principle which was more violated in 1872 than that of representation by population. The hon. gentleman alleged that 200 Reformers had been taken away from Huron South for party purposes, which might have been death to the Reform Party in that constituency.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the charges were utterly insupportable.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) said they were all disgusted with the rascality of the late Government in their dealings in that matter.

Mr. ORTON said there was a difference of 11,000 between the North and Centre ridings. The Reform Party, as everybody knew, desired representation by population, and he was surprised to see the Government encouraging a measure which would not only destroy the principle of representation, but also strike at the liberties and rights of the people of this country. He defended the late Government's action in the matter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the principles laid down by the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) as to the sacredness of the representation of the people were perfectly correct; and he entirely concurred in many of his remarks. The right hon. member for Kingston had said there should be no great infringement of the great electoral law; but when he went on to defend himself and to accuse members of the Government of violating that which he was defending he must have forgotten that which occurred recently in his own district.

While he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) admitted the general principle that a bill seriously affecting the representation of the people must be, or should be, directly under the charge of the Government he was not prepared to admit that it was absolutely essential that every bill of this kind should be brought in by the Government. The best answer that he could give to that was by reminding the hon. gentleman of the bill introduced by the member for Joliette in 1865 for altering some boundaries for electoral purposes. In 1869 the hon. member for Terrebonne (Mr. Masson) introduced a bill to alter the boundaries of that County for electoral purposes. Where was the cry of the right hon. gentleman for the sacred principle he was so anxious to raise tonight? (*Hear, hear.*)

He had laid it down also that it was quite improper that any member should have his constituency changed at any time during the existence of Parliament, even if it existed five years; but that he should go back to the same body of constituents who had elected him. But, he would ask the right hon. gentleman, who changed the Township of Dunn?

The position of the Government was simply this. They did not choose to bring in any general measure for the electoral representation of the people. Neither did they choose to take upon themselves to say that a flagrant violation of territorial boundaries should not be redressed by such a measure as his hon. friend behind him had chosen to bring in.

He proceeded to reply to the charge of inconsistency brought against him by the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), and reminded that hon. gentleman of his conduct with regard to the measure for the division of the twenty-four counties in the Province of Ontario in 1872, and said it would be very difficult to explain why he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) should vote against what he had voted for on that occasion, simply because he happened to be sitting on the Treasury benches.

Mr. STIRTON complained that the hon. member for Wellington Centre (Mr. Orton) had not stated the case fairly as regarded the ridings of Wellington.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL approved the present bill, but deprecated the principle countenanced by the Premier, which was going to prove detrimental if carried out in its entirety, as by it any member would, if a supporter of the Government of the day, be able to fix a constituency to suit himself.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD remarked upon the singularity of the fact that, despite all Mr. Stirton had said, no opposition had been offered to the settlement of the constituencies of Wellington.

The House having gone into Committee,

Mr. BOWELL said the carrying into effect of the measure of Mr. Cameron (Huron South) would be a violation of the principle for which the Premier had so much contended, viz., that of representation by population.

The bill was reported with amendments.

* * *

RAILWAY LAW AMENDMENT

Mr. DELORME moved the second reading of the bill to amend the general Acts relating to railroads, and to provide for the greater security of life and protection of property on railways in Canada. He explained the provisions of his bill, which were to ensure the punishment of railway officials who were drunk when on duty; and to compel the use of the patent car couplers and air brakes, as well

as some proper means of communication between the passenger coaches.

Mr. COLBY expressed his approval of the measure. He advocated the use by the Railway Committee of their power of inspection of railways, as well as the making of a proper investigation into the cause of the accidents, reports of which should be regularly presented to this House. Every railway should be compelled to adopt every measure and every appliance at all likely to prevent accident.

Hon. Mr. DORION expressed his belief that many of the clauses of the bill were incapable of being carried into effect. It might be well, however, that it should go to the Railway Committee to have these matters inquired into.

Mr. CHARLTON approved the bill, and urged that clauses should be added to regulate the matter of stoves and the kind of oil which should be used on board trains.

Mr. WALKER said that too little attention had been paid to the subject of railways. There should be an efficient system of inspection, as well as a thorough investigation into the causes of a railway accident by a duly qualified Government inspector. He also referred to the deplorable accident on the Great Western Railway, and advocated a regulation compelling proper communication between the cars, the conductor, and the engine driver.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER concurred in the views of the Minister of Justice.

The bill was read a second time, and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.

The House adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 7, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) presented a petition praying for the protection of manufacturing and agricultural products.

Mr. FARROW also presented a petition praying for protection for Canadian manufacturers.

Several petitions for a Prohibitory Liquor Law were presented.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. DORION presented a return of appointments to the Montreal Custom House from the lst of January, 1874, up to the present time, with the names and previous occupations of the parties appointed.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the third report of the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.

Mr. RYMAL presented the ninth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. RYMAL moved that, in accordance with the report of the Committee on Standing Orders, the time for receiving private bills be extended to Friday, the 15th May.—Carried.

Mr. RYMAL moved also that the 51st rule of the House be amended by striking out the words "Province of Quebec," and inserting the words "Provinces of Quebec and Manitoba."

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE objected to this summary change in a rule of the House. It would be sufficient to instruct the clerk to advertise in the Province of Manitoba in the same way as in the Province of Quebec. Besides, the motion was unnecessary, as it was only by a printer's mistake that the rule was not as the motion desired it should be.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON also objected to the motion.

Hon. Mr. DORION suggested that the matter should be allowed to stand.

Mr. RYMAL said he brought up the report at the request of the Committee, and would not withdraw it unless the House voted it down.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he only wished the report to lie over for the present.

Mr. RYMAL, angrily: You did not say "at present" as you usually do. (*Laughter.*)

The report was then allowed to lie over.

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OTTAWA LOAN COMPANY

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) introduced a bill to incorporate the Ottawa Loan and Investment Company.

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INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. YOUNG moved that the returns showing all claims against the contractors for sections 8, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 19 of the Intercolonial Railway be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

Mr. BLAIN introduced a bill to annex the village of Richmond Hill to the West riding of York for election purposes.

Mr. O'DONOHOE introduced a bill to incorporate the Great North West Railway Company.

Mr. SCRIVER introduced a bill to amend an Act incorporating the Quebec Frontier Railway Company.

Mr. MOSS introduced a bill to amend the powers of the Dominion Telegraph Company. Also a bill to amend the Act of incorporation of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Loan and Savings Society.

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EXPENSES FOR CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER moved the House into Committee, **Mr. PÂQUET** in the chair, to consider a resolution, "That it is expedient to provide out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Dominion, for the payment of the travelling expenses of Judges at the trial of election petitions, and all expenses incurred by the Sheriff or other officers in consequence of any sitting for the trial of

an election petition, and for providing a court-room and accessories."

The resolution was adopted, reported, and referred to the Committee of the Whole, to which was referred the Controverted Elections Bill.

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RETURNING OFFICERS' FEES

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the House into Committee, **Mr. WILKES** in the chair, on the following resolutions:

That it is expedient in the bill No. 2, respecting the election of members of the House of Commons, to provide for the fees of returning officers when no poll is taken, and when polls are taken, &c. , deputy returning officers, &c.

That such fees, allowances, and disbursement shall be paid to the returning officer by warrant of the Governor General directed to the Receiver General, out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada, and shall be distributed by such returning officer to the several officers and persons entitled to the same under the provisions of this Act, which distribution he shall report to the Governor General through the Secretary of State.

That the returning officers shall certify the correctness of the accounts of their respective deputy returning offices.

That whenever an election is held for the electoral district of Gaspé or Chicoutimi and Saguenay in the Province of Quebec, or for the electoral district of Algoma in the Province of Ontario, or for any electoral district in either of the Provinces of Manitoba or British Columbia, and it shall appear to the Governor in Council that the fees and allowances above provided are not sufficient remuneration for the services required to be performed, the Governor in Council may authorize the payment of such further and additional sum or sums of money for such service as may be considered just and reasonable compensation therefor.

That inasmuch as the mode of conducting elections established by this Act is new in Canada, it is expedient to provide that, if it should appear to the Governor in Council that the provisions made in the foregoing are inadequate or insufficient for the purposes for which they are intended—that is, a fair and just, but economical, remuneration for the services performed—the Governor in Council may make a tariff of fees, costs, and expenses to be paid and allowed to Returning Officers and other persons employed at or with respect to elections under this Act, and may from time to time revise and amend such tariff, which shall then be substituted for that mode by the preceding resolutions as respects any election held after the making or the revising and amending thereof, but a copy of any such tariff, and of any amendment thereof, shall be laid before the House of Commons at the then next session of Parliament.

The resolutions were read a second time and referred to the Committee of the House on the Election Bill.

THE ELECTION BILL

The House went into Committee on Hon. Mr. Dorion's Election Bill, **Mr. MILLS** in the chair.

Slight amendments were made to clause 11, relating to constituencies where no voters list existed; also to the number of proclamations to be published, where the word "four" was inserted rather than the word "ten".

On section 18, relating to the time and place of nomination, an amendment was inserted providing that nominations may be filed with the Returning Officer, at any time and place, between the date of the proclamation and the nomination day with the same effect as if made at the time and place fixed for the nomination, and at the close of the time for nominating candidates the Returning Officer shall return to every candidate or his agent a duly certified list of the candidates proposed, and any votes given for any other candidate than those so returned will be null and void.

Hon. Mr. DORION suggested that, with the nomination paper, a deposit should be made of $50, to be used by the Returning Officer towards defraying his election expenses.

A discussion took place as to whether there should be a deposit at all, and whether it should be $50 or $100. Hon. Mr. Dorion's proposition was $50; Mr. Currier's, $100. After some discussion, the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. YOUNG moved in amendment that the fee be $100, to be returned to the candidate after the election, unless he failed to attain a fifth of the votes polled for the successful candidate.

The amendment was lost by 79 votes to 32.

Hon. Mr. DORION's proposition was carried.

Mr. THOMPSON (Cariboo) moved that each candidate should deposit $500, the whole to be handed to the successful candidate. (*Laughter.*) Mr. Thompson said as the sense of the House seemed to be against the motion he would withdraw it. (*Laughter.*)

The 19th clause as amended then passed.

Some other clauses were slightly amended.

Mr. LANGLOIS urged that the ballot papers should be initialled by the Returning Officer as well as by the Deputy Returning Officers, to prevent the stuffing of the boxes by the Deputy Returning Officers.

Mr. BOWELL contended that the proposal would not prevent fraud.

Hon. Mr. DORION did not see that the inconvenience the member for Montmorency (Mr. Langlois) anticipated could take place.

The clause passed as proposed by Hon. Mr. Dorion.

Several other clauses were verbally amended.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER protested against the proposed franchise for Prince Edward Island, and held that the manhood suffrage prevalent now should be retained. He pointed out that the proposed franchise would deprive one-third of the voters of the present day of their votes, a large and disproportionate number of whom were Roman Catholics.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD defended the action of the Government, and considered it was only fair to place that Province in pretty much the same position as the rest of the Dominion. He was by no means tired of manhood suffrage, but he thought the measure now proposed should be adopted temporarily, until voters lists could be made up.

He denied that the proposed change would disfranchise a greater proportion of Roman Catholics than of other denominations, and was at a loss to know how the hon. member came to such a conclusion. If open voting had continued, and the ballot were not to be introduced, he would not object to retaining the old franchise, but as it was it would be a violation at the principle of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he had received a letter from a gentleman of high standing in Prince Edward Island, stating that this franchise would give rise to great dissatisfaction among the people of that Province. That gentleman had said in his letter that it would disfranchise a large number who should be entitled to vote for the member of the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said he ought to know something of public opinion in Prince Edward Island, and he could say that since the object of this bill had been known in the Island he had not seen a hostile remark in the newspapers or received a letter containing one.

Mr. SINCLAIR asserted that the franchise would give general satisfaction in Prince Edward Island. Under existing circumstances he thought the franchise of the Upper House should be adopted. He was by no means opposed to or tired of universal suffrage, but he thought the necessary voters lists would be made up before another election, so that no one would be disfranchised. He was not aware that the proposed change was favourably received by the people, and felt sure they would not object to being placed on the same footing as the other Provinces.

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

AFTER RECESS

The discussion on Hon. Mr. Dorion's election bill was resumed.

Mr. DAVIES said he was very much pleased with the measure of the Government as a whole, but would like to have seen a uniform franchise, although he saw great difficulties in the way of a perfect measure of that kind at present, owing to the wide differences of the condition of the people of the different Provinces. He was greatly in favour of universal suffrage, and he had no doubt the Local Legislature would soon reduce the qualification for the Legislative Assembly to manhood suffrage.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER complained of the injustice done to Prince Edward Island, and read a letter from the Hon. Mr. Howlan, referred to by Hon. Mr. Cameron (Cardwell), protesting against the franchise provisions of this bill. In his letter he had spoken of the admirable manner in which the franchise worked, and he hoped that he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) would move an amendment to replace the franchise on its old footing. The new system would press unfairly on the Roman Catholics of the Island, who were in the main the poorer classes and were the majority in numbers. He would not have moved in the matter except for this letter.

He trusted that the Hon. Minister of Justice would not strangle the Prince Edward Island electors at the polls, or make an invidious distinction between Prince Edward Island and the other Provinces. If they were going to adopt the franchise of each Province, why should they take a different course against the people of Prince Edward Island, who had not been shown to have abused the trusts reposed in them?

Hon. Mr. DORION said that the other day the hon. member for Cumberland had advocated an uniform franchise throughout the Provinces. Now, if his argument of today were correct, he advocated universal suffrage throughout the Dominion. Hon. Mr. Dorion went on to say that the representatives of Prince Edward Island were satisfied with the franchise now accorded, and it was only Mr. Howlan, the leader of the infinitesimal minority of the island, who protested against this franchise. He pretended that he had the right to protest in the name of the people against this proposal, while the six members from that Province in this House, who had been returned triumphantly by large majorities, were in favour of it to a man.

The hon. member for Cumberland was endeavouring to make capital out of a position which he could not sustain. He commented strongly on the inconsistency of the hon. gentleman from Cumberland, himself a high old Tory, advocating universal suffrage in one breath and calling for a qualification uniform in all the Provinces in another. He continued to say that under the ballot greater care had to be exercised as to the qualification of voters, and this must be either by a list of voters or by some defined mode, such as the possession of property and residence; otherwise people would be brought from any part of the Dominion to swell a vote.

For his (Hon. Mr. Dorion's) part he favoured universal suffrage, a state of affairs which would not meet with approval of the hon. member for Cumberland. He (Hon. Mr. Dorion) did not desire to impose universal suffrage upon a few people but to work them up to it. There was, he said, ample time for Prince Edward Island to assimilate her laws to this.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the Hon. Mr. Howlan's appointment was not a nomination of his. That gentleman was nominated by the Roman Catholic Party, and he approved of the nomination. The Roman Catholics had control of the Local Legislature, and if they regarded that an injustice had been done them, they could easily rectify the matter by introducing the registration of votes; then they could have all they desired.

The present franchise of the Lower House was subject to great abuses, and it was not desirable that it should be extended to the elections for the Dominion Parliament. He did not consider that the proposed franchise would inflict any injustice on the Roman Catholics, and he was assured that quite as many Roman Catholics were prepared to go under the franchise as there were Protestants. The hon. member for Cumberland had endeavoured to stir up sectional feeling upon this point, and he deprecated this course.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that in the clause under consideration it was proposed to make a serious change in the franchise of Prince Edward Island. It had been said that the number of voters that would be excluded would be infinitesimally small. If it were to make such a small difference of votes why insist upon it?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD: I admit that it will make a difference of one-third of the votes.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said then the third of the electors who sent the hon. gentleman to Parliament were to be disfranchised for sending him here. This change was utterly opposed to the announced principle of the bill—the principle that representatives to the Dominion Parliament were to be elected by the electors who elected representatives to the people's Houses in the Provinces. But here they had a breach of that principle proposed by a Liberal Government, and made in a measure introduced by the Minister of Justice who declared himself in favour of universal suffrage.

One of two principles should be adopted in the election of members to this Parliament. The one which he considered to be the proper and dignified one was that this Parliament should settle the qualification of electors voting for members for this House. The other principle laid down by hon. gentlemen opposite, and which he did not approve of, was that each Province should return members by the franchise by which members were sent to the people's House of each Province in the Dominion. Why was that system not carried out, and this exception made? Why should this principle be infringed because hon. gentlemen, for some unexplained case, desired to change the principle of representation? There must be some unexplained reason, because the reasons which had been given could not be dignified by the name of reasons. The only reason given was that a wholesome coercion would be exercised over the Local Legislature to alter the law and introduce a system of registration.

Here they had the argument announced that this Parliament would go out of its way to force the Legislatures of the different Provinces to do what was regarded as necessary by this House. The Government abjured the principle that there should be no interference with the Provincial Legislatures, and that no attempt should be made to put the screw upon those Legislatures. By the proposed step the Government were going to deprive Prince Edward Island of one-third of its voters, with the view of forcing it into legislation it might not want.

It had been said on the other side of the House that there was no chance of a general election for another year in Prince Edward Island. Why, then, was there any necessity for committing this breach of the principle proposed by the Government? This breach was undoubtedly proposed for some reason not yet divulged. The fact of voting by ballot being introduced did not make any difference. The ballot was merely for the purpose of concealing the name of the person voting. It made no difference as to identification. A man would have to prove his right to vote, and this could not be urged as an excuse for such exceptional legislation. Had there been voters lists for the Upper House this might have been held out as a reason for this exception, but there were no lists for the Upper House and there were no lists for this, so they both stood upon an equal footing.

Although there might not be a general election within the year, there might be some special election. The hon. member for Oxford South (Mr. Bodwell) had during the session been appointed to a position of emolument under the Government, and a similar appointment might be made from amongst the Prince Edward Island members. This would occasion a vacancy, and the constituency would find that they had lost one-third of their voices. For the Upper House there was a property qualification, but there was no list, nor was there any registration. A voter on going to the poll said: "I am a resident of this place. I am a British subject. I have a right to vote, and I have a property qualification." The statement was with slight exception the same for the Lower House. There could be no more chance of confusion or fraud in electing for the Lower House than there could be in electing for the Upper House. Yet one-third of the population was to be deprived of the right to vote for some unexplained cause.

There was one thing certain that this House would believe, and the country would believe, from the course pursued that might be the real cause for making this exception. He trusted this proposition would be allowed to stand over for another year, until the Local Legislature met. In the meantime he hoped they would not punish one-third of the people by depriving them of the franchise. The result of this change would be that the members from Prince Edward Island would come to Parliament as the "bloated aristocracy" of the Island, elected in the same manner as the representatives in the Upper House, while he (Right. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), like the remaining members of the House, would be the *canaille*. This was wrong; this action was taken by a Liberal Administration under the pressure and advocacy of another gentleman who was in favour of universal suffrage.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the right hon. gentleman had charged him with being an advocate of universal suffrage, but he thought the right hon. gentleman's speech had been altogether in favour of that principle.

The clause was then adopted.

Several other clauses were carried and a few amendments of an unimportant nature were made in clause 59. With a slight verbal alteration, the ninety-seventh clause was adopted.

On clause 98,

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) pointed out the great difficulty that there was in determining in what "agency" consisted. If they could defend agency in this Act it would save much difficulty. On the motion for concurrence he intended to move that all questions of agencies under this Act should be settled and decided upon the principles of the general law of the Province in which the question arose, in relation to principal and agent as between party and party in civil suits.

Hon. Mr. DORION, while he would not say that some definition of agency might not be made, considered that to put it upon the footing of agency in matters of contract would defeat the object of this law.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) thought it was most desirable to establish a rule in this matter.

Mr. MOSS thought it would be extremely dangerous for the House to adopt the principle advocated by the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron). If such a doctrine were incorporated in this Act, he thought a serious blow would be struck at purity of election. He thought himself that the law which rendered a candidate responsible for the illegal acts of his agent with which he was not acquainted was extremely harsh.

After some further remarks by Hon. Mr. Cameron (Cardwell),

Hon. Mr. DORION said he would consider this suggestion of the member for Cardwell before the third reading.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said there would have to be a distinction between the classes of agent, into the merit of which at present the judges could not enter or apply their own sense of reason. Under the present law the class of work done was not of so much trouble to the candidate as to the agent himself. Under the present law he denied that any member could keep his seat if the candidate opposed to him, or the Party to which he was opposed, found the funds to contest the election. He hoped the hon. gentleman would consider this question.

Mr. IRVING protested against the proposal of the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) which he considered tended to a retrograde step. He cautioned the House against receiving any proposals affecting purity of election from the front ranks of the Opposition, as those hon. gentlemen had had many opportunities of purifying the election law and had never advanced a step in that direction. (*Cheers.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked how much the hon. gentleman had spent in his election. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. IRVING said he had spent nothing except in personal expenses, but he had felt the hand of the right hon. gentleman in the election of 1872, when he squandered thousands of dollars in the city of Hamilton. (*Cheers.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he never spent a sixpence in a Hamilton election.

Mr. IRVING said he could now understand the right hon. gentleman's objection to being responsible for the acts of his agents. (*Cheers.*)

The clause passed.

Hon. Mr. DORION proposed to fix the fee for Returning Officers at $40 in uncontested, and $60 in contested, elections, except in the case of British Columbia, Manitoba, Algoma, Gaspé and Chicoutimi, where power was given to the Governor in Council to give an additional sum, if necessary.

The proposal was carried.

Hon. Mr. DORION proposed that the ballot should come into force on the 1st of January next, the same day as in Ontario, which was agreed to.

The Committee then rose and reported the Bill as amended, and the third reading was fixed for Tuesday next.

* * *

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. FOURNIER**, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Controverted Elections Bill, **Mr. GEOFFRION** in the chair.

A few verbal amendments were made, the amendments concurred in, and the third reading fixed for Tuesday.

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INSURANCE COMPANIES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the bill to amend the Act respecting Insurance Companies was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

The House adjourned at midnight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 8, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions were presented praying for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. YOUNG presented the report of the Committee on a Canadian *Hansard*, which was ordered to be printed; also the second report, respecting the reporting of Committees.

Mr. MILLS presented the third report of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills.

Mr. PATERSON presented the report of the Committee on the condition of Six Nations Indians.

Mr. RYMAL presented the report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the returns of papers connected with Port Stanley Harbour; also the return on the pieces of timber exported since April, 1873; also the report of the Engineer appointed to examine the transcontinental land and water route to British Columbia.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:—

Hon. Mr. HOLTON introduced a bill to incorporate the Colonial Building and Investment Association.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South)—To provide for compulsory voting at elections of members for the House of Commons.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk)—To amend the Act incorporating the Bank of Manitoba; also to incorporate the Central Canada Telegraph Company.

Mr. BROOKS—Respecting the issue of bonds for St. Francis and Mégantic International Railway Company.

Mr. MOSS—To authorize the Northern Extension Railways Company to amalgamate with the Northern Railway Company of Canada, and to consolidate and amend the Acts of Incorporation of these Companies.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY

The SPEAKER submitted a message from His Excellency, signed with his own hand, transmitting the supplementary estimates and recommending them to the House of Commons.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, it was resolved to refer these estimates to the Committee of Supply.

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PACIFIC RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that he would on Tuesday next move this House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions on the subject of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

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ESQUIMALT GRAVING DOCK

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that he would on Tuesday move the House into Committee of the Whole on the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to provide that in lieu of the guarantee of interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum for ten years from the completion of the works, on such sum not exceeding 100,000 pounds sterling, as may be required for the construction of a first-class graving dock at Esquimalt, as provided by the terms of the Order of the Queen in Council for the admission of British Columbia into the Union, advances shall be made from time to time for Canada out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the said construction of the graving dock, upon presentation of certificates for the progress of the work, such advances not to exceed, in the whole, $250,000."

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DURATION OF THE SESSION

Mr. JONES (Halifax) asked the leader of the Government when it was expected the business of Parliament would be finished. He made this enquiry because several gentlemen from distant parts of the Dominion were anxious to leave as early as it was convenient, and they desired to know when the session would be brought to a termination, if the information was in possession of the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was sorry that it was quite out of his power to give the information at present that the hon. gentleman wanted. There were several measures of great importance to be considered by Parliament, which had not yet been introduced. They would in the course of a few days be brought down. The Insolvency bill, the bill concerning the Pacific Railway Scheme, and the Supreme Court bill had yet to be brought into the House.

In the absence of these measures it was quite impossible to say what progress would be made within the next two weeks. If these measures met with general acceptance, and with the approval of the House, and were discussed at moderate length, it was probable they might get through about the 25th of the month. It was impossible to say more than that at the present time.

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INTERCOLONIAL CARS

Mr. PALMER asked the Premier if he would give him an answer to the following questions: Whether it was not known as early as December last that the cars advertised on the 7th April last for the Intercolonial Railway would be required; and did not a member of the firm of Harlan & Hollingsworth, car builders of Wilmington, Delaware, about that time submit to the officials of the railway in New Brunswick plans and specifications for the construction of such cars, and which of such cars, and were such arrangements made with the said firm that they proceeded to manufacture some of such cars; and why tenders were not then advertised for; and, if the time for finishing the cars had been extended, has this been advertised, and, if not, why not.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no hesitation in answering his hon. friend's question. In the first place, it was not known in December that these cars would be required; nor was it known at the present time that they would be absolutely required. It depended upon the arrangements that might be made for running additional trains on the road.

He had never before heard of the name of the firm alluded to. There was no information in the Department of any official connected with the railway or the Government having had any communication with that firm of car builders. Certainly no official had with the knowledge of the Government any communication with that firm, and, if any official was shown to have made any arrangements, he would be dismissed immediately from the public service. Tenders were not advertised for because they were not required to advertise for a thing they were not aware was required.

Mr. Schrieber reported in March last that if a night train was to be put on between Halifax and St. John, additional stock would be required, and recommended that inquiries should be made by advertisement and otherwise as to the best means of obtaining them. The extension of time for building the cars had also been advertised. This he thought was a full answer to the hon. gentleman's question.

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SUPPLY: SALARIES IN THE SENATE

The House then entered upon the further consideration of the following items of the estimates:—

Salaries and contingent expenses of the Senate, $46,868 (increase $1,000): additional by 36 Vic., Cap. 31, $2,500. Salaries and contingencies, House of Commons, per Clerk's estimate, $85,440 (increase, $7,925).

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said, with regard to the item for the Senate, that was the sum fixed by that body itself. The House had generally been in the habit of allowing considerable latitude to hon. gentlemen of the other branch of the Legislature. He did not know that he could offer any other explanation than that contained in the report of the Senate.

They based their ground for recommending the increase generally on the increase which had taken place in the other branches of the public service, and the fact that the sum was largely below what was granted to the old Legislative Council of the two Provinces of Canada. There was also an increase in tradesmen's accounts in the charge for cabinet and upholstery work. With the exception of two permanent messengers, which it was said were required, there was no other increase except with regard to the Law Clerk and the Deputy Clerk.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought it an unsatisfactory thing that they could not consider closely the expenditure of the Senate, and he could not see why the Assistant Clerk of the Senate should receive $500 more than the Assistant Clerk of the Commons while he had not half the work.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT agreed with this remark, and stated that it was customary to give the hon. gentlemen of the Upper Chamber a good deal of latitude.

The resolutions were then adopted, and the Committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County)**, the House went into Committee on the bill to continue, for a limited time, certain temporary provisions in the Act respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

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PILOTAGE AMENDMENT BILL

The House having gone into Committee on the bill to amend the Pilotage Act,

Mr. JONES (Halifax) complained that this amendment bill would operate unfairly towards the pilots of Halifax, as it exempted West Indian vessels from dues. He moved, in amendment, that the Pilotage Commissioners should have the right to fix the amount of remuneration in the same way as St. John, New Brunswick.

Mr. POWER supported the amendment.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said this bill was merely intended to remedy a defect in the original bill; besides, no opposition had been offered by the great shipping interests. He hoped, therefore, the hon. member for Halifax would withdraw his amendment. He said he thought his hon. friend should allow the Bill to pass, as the shipping interests had not been consulted in this matter generally; if the provisions were to be extended to Halifax they would have to be extended to other ports also.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said the law should provide that when ships did not require pilots and the pilots had gone out, "speaking money" should be paid, otherwise there would be no pilots at all. He would like the same provisions to extend to Nova Scotia as New Brunswick. He would feel it necessary to ask the House to assent to his motion.

Mr. DAVIES supported the amendment of Mr. Jones (Halifax).

Mr. GOUDGE supported the original motion.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) again advised Mr. Jones (Halifax) to let the motion stand over till next session.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON also advised him to let it stand over.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said the people of Halifax were very much interested in this matter, and it was their desire to have this provision extended to them. He, however, consented to the withdrawal of the amendment.

The Bill was then adopted, reported, read a third time, and passed.

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EXEMPTION OF TRANSPORTS FROM HARBOUR DUES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**,

The House went into Committee on the Bill to exempt transports from port and harbour dues.

The Bill was reported without amendment, read a third time, and passed.

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OBSTRUCTION OF NAVIGABLE WATERS

On motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**,

The Bill for the removal of obstructions by wrecks and like causes on the navigable waters of Canada, and for other purposes relative to wrecks, was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

MARINE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to amend the Act for the organization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

EXTENSION OF THE FISHERIES ACT

On motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**,

The Bill respecting the extension and application of the Fisheries Act to and in the Provinces of British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, and Manitoba was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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PORT WARDEN OF MONTREAL

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to further amend the Act to provide for the appointment of a Port Warden for the harbour of Montreal was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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DOMINION LANDS SCRIP

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**, the House went into Committee on a resolution declaring it expedient to amend the Dominion Land Act, 35 Vic., Cap. 23, and to provide that the Governor in Council might issue scrip redeemable only by its receipt in payment for Dominion Lands.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and concurred in.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time.

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MANITOBA LANDS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**, the Bill respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion Lands in Manitoba was read a second time, passed through Committee, was read a third time, and passed.

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EXTRA-JUDICIAL OATHS

On motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**,

The Bill for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths was read a second time.

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THE SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee of Supply on the Supplemental Estimates.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asked that the order should stand, as the Supplemental Estimates had only just been laid on the table.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought it was well that the hon. gentleman's suggestion should be taken, as the Supplementary Estimates were to provide for the huge expenditure, increased by the colleagues of the hon. member for Cumberland.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER denied that these expenditures had all been caused by his colleagues. This was another of the Finance

Minister's disingenuous statements. He would again repeat his remarks with regard to the tariff. He had denied that there was a deficit, and that there was any need for increased duties. The Finance Minister had not proved to the contrary, and could not now do so.

The motion was withdrawn.

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PUBLIC WORKS LOAN

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the Bill to authorize the raising of a loan for the construction of certain public works, with the benefit of the Imperial Guarantee for a portion thereof, was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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INSPECTION OF STAPLE ARTICLES OF PRODUCE

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER, in moving the second reading of the Bill to make better provision, extending to the whole Dominion of Canada, respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce, explained that the amendments were not very important, and had been introduced at the suggestion of the Boards of Trade. He proposed to refer the Bill to the Committee on Banking and Commerce. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

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INSPECTION OF STEAMBOATS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill further to amend the Act respecting the inspection of Steamboats was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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THE TARIFF BILL

On motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**,

The Bill to amend the Act 31 Vic., Cap. 44, and the Acts amending the same, and the tariff of duties and customs annexed thereto, was read a second time and passed into Committee.

Mr. DOMVILLE complained that while scrap iron was nominally taxed it was practically admitted into the country free in the shape of railway iron. He asserted that, intentionally or otherwise, a blow had been levelled at the business in which he was engaged.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON drew attention to the fact that the clause to which the hon. gentleman alluded had passed.

Mr. DOMVILLE contended that the tariff was inconsistent in imposing a tariff on scrap iron. As it was, no scrap iron was entered for the Dominion. It was all sent to Buffalo or Cleveland, and what came into Canada generally came under the head of rails, which paid no duty. The scrap iron consisted of old rails and was again worked up in the rolling mills.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said railroad iron was admitted free because it was considered undesirable to place a duty on that description of iron. He considered it expedient to place a duty on other descriptions.

He was sorry if any injury was done to the business of the hon. gentleman, but he assured him there was no intention to do so. The tax was imposed simply for revenue purposes.

Mr. BURPEE (Sunbury) said the tax, as far as he could see, would be in favour of the business in which they were engaged.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) expressed himself as generally pleased with the amended tariff, although he was of opinion that some interests had been overlooked, not, however, intentionally, he was sure. He pointed out that while a protective duty was imposed on locomotive axles, they had omitted car axles, inadvertently, he felt quite sure.

Mr. JONES (Leeds South) contended that this tariff was unsatisfactory. It was calculated to drive scrap iron from the shores of Canada to be taken into the United States and manufactured, after which it came into Canada to the detriment of our industries. He denounced the duties on tea and sugar, and advocated a protection tariff, which we much need but which is denied to us.

Mr. CURRIER called attention to the fact that, while railway iron, which could be manufactured here, was admitted free, gas and water pipes, which we did not make, had to pay a duty of 17 1/2 per cent. He considered that the contrary should be the case.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton), in reply to the member for Leeds South, said that he had no just cause of complaint, this tariff suiting his particular business far better than the other. He added that the Government had made a step in the right direction in this tariff, which the leader of the Opposition had denounced as a Protectionist wedge.

Mr. MILLS commented upon the fact that this discussion had been going on between two Protectionists, one of whom approved of the tariff, and the other did not. He was proceeding with his remarks when,

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

AFTER RECESS

The following Private Bills were agreed to in Committee, read a third time, and passed:—

To amend the Act incorporating the Royal Canadian Insurance Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce—**Mr. BOYER**.

To incorporate Lamb's Water-Proof Gum Manufacturing Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce—**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

To amend an Act to incorporate the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce—**Mr. DOMVILLE**.

To incorporate the Bank of Ottawa, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce—**Mr. BLACKBURN**.

To amalgamate the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Company (Limited) and the Toronto Manufacturing Company (Limited), under the name of the Electric and Hardware Manufacturing Company (Limited), as amended by the Standing Committee on Private Bills—**Mr. MacLENNAN**.

The bill to incorporate the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company—**Mr. HALL**.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

To incorporate the Columbus and Oregon Consolidated Silver Mining Company—**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

To incorporate the Neutral Link Railway Company—**Mr. IRVING**.

To amend the Act incorporating the British America Assurance Company, and other Acts affecting the same; and to extend the powers of the said Company—**Mr. MOSS**.

To amend an Act respecting the Bank of Nova Scotia—**Mr. JONES (Halifax)**.

To incorporate the St. John's Board of Trade, Province of Quebec—**Mr. DONAHUE**.

Mr. BROOKS moved the second reading of the bill respecting the crime of libel.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved the second reading of the amendments sent down by the Senate to the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company Amendment Act.—Carried.

Mr. MOSS moved the second reading of the Dominion Telegraph Company's Amendment Bill.—Carried.

* * *

AMENDED TARIFF BILL

The House again went into Committee on the Amended Tariff Bill.

Mr. MILLS resumed the debate. He denied that the balance of trade was the measure of a country's prosperity. He went on to say that, taking this as the index, the balance of trade had been continually against the United States. He argued that, by the United States' protection, lobbying, et cetera, the manufacturers of one article, thread, say spool thread, were able to make a profit of at least 150 per cent. He showed that in a number of articles which we manufactured here—take the article of sewing machines—they made 200 per cent profit. Was this a condition of things which a Government should tolerate?

He was an unqualified Free Trader, and considered that Protection was putting an additional burden upon the people, and placing the amount so taken into the pockets of one class. He believed that, by the present tariff bill, the Minister of Finance had endeavoured to distribute out taxation as equally as possible over the different classes of the community. He contended that each endeavour we put forth to improve our channels of transport was diminishing the natural protection in certain sections. He thought when it became necessary, it could be shown that it was against our interests to place a Chinese wall around our country, and that it was advisable for us to widen our markets and the sections in which our mercantile enterprises could be carried on.

Mr. RYAN denied that the proposed tariff would give general satisfaction; but he believed it to be a step in the right direction. He would say, however, that, had it not been for the Opposition, he doubted if the hon. members for Hamilton (Mr. Wood and Mr. Irving) would have had so much cause for self-congratulation. He affirmed that the reduction in the duty on tea, which took place two years ago, had never benefited the people of Canada, it having cost the same. He did not think any articles could better afford to pay duties than tea or coffee, but he regretted that the Finance Minister had not brought his duty in the shape of an *ad valorem* impost, as it was unfair to make the consumers of the cheap teas pay as much as the purchasers of the better qualities.

He denied that Protection would shut out imports, diminish the revenue, and necessitate direct taxation. It was all very well to talk of Free Trade, as did the hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills); but he had not informed the House that England had paved the way for Free Trade by a highly protective policy. In support of a protective policy he cited the case of boots and shoes, which some years ago obtained a protection of twenty per cent. Now the trade had grown up to such an extent that boots were far cheaper than they ever were.

Protection would in the course of time lead to our obtaining goods at far cheaper prices, and besides would furnish employment for those who came to settle amongst us, instead of a policy which drove them from our shores.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) thought that those who wished to discuss free trade and protection should, in view of the lateness of the session, bottle up their arguments until some other occasion.

Mr. GORDON asked the Finance Minister if it was the intention of the Government to remove the duty on land plaster gypsum.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that gypsum, or land plaster, when unground was free now, but when ground it paid a duty of 10 per cent. The tariff would remain as it was.

Mr. GORDON was going on to argue in favour of protection, and in doing so to refer to evidence taken before the Committee on Manufacturing Interest, when—

Mr. DYMOND rose to a point of order, and protested against that evidence being dragged into the discussion.

The SPEAKER held that it was out of order to refer to that evidence.

Mr. RICHARD regretted that he could not endorse the tariff of the Finance Minister. Instead of taxing tea and coffee, and articles which we could not produce, the Finance Minister should have placed his duties on articles which could have been manufactured amongst us, in which case not only would a revenue be secured, but our manufacturers would have that protection which they needed.

He went on to discuss with considerable ability the relative merits of Free Trade and Protection, and contended that our national policy was that of Protection. It was not for us to consider what would suit England, but we must see to our own interests; otherwise we should continue to drive, as we had been doing, our operative class to the cities of the United States. He advocated "a free breakfast table", insofar as were concerned articles which we could not produce; but in regard to others which we could produce it was to our interest to place a protective tax on them, as by so much would our people be better able to pay for them, besides which their protection would be stimulated.

He especially dwelt upon Protection for our agricultural products, which were essential to the opening up of the country, and was the prelude to our embarking, as we should do, in manufactures. He gave statistics as to the amount of cereals imported from the United States which might just as well be grown on the rich land of Canada. He combated the arguments of the member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills), and with regard to the position of the United States, held that without Protection it would never have been the country it today is. The reason for the low and unprofitable prices that our farmers receive for their products was because they had no market, which they never could have so long as we did not protect our producers, and this was one of the causes of the backward state of agriculture among us.

Mr. GORDON called attention to the fact that a duty of 10 per cent had been imposed on lard, now this tariff had been now brought in, and he desired to know if this would be removed.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT: This was an old impost.

Mr. GORDON said then it was not formerly collected. He proceeded to defend the principles of Protection, and wished the tariff had gone further in this direction.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the hon. member for Hamilton (Mr. Wood) was right when he expressed his gratitude to the Free Trade Premier for his 2 1/2 per cent Protection, and he was perfectly right when he said that next year with this Government he would be able to drive the wedge of Protection still deeper. The hon. gentleman might rest perfectly satisfied now that he would get all the Protection he wanted, since the Protectionist Finance Minister had, to secure Protection, affirmed that we had a deficit, which neither he nor anyone else could prove as existing.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON called the hon. gentleman to order, saying that he would have ample opportunity of discussing the questions of Free Trade and Protection at a future stage, but now he had to confine himself to the subject of the particular clause which the House was discussing.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) was giving him (Hon. Mr. Tupper) the highest compliment when he placed restrictions upon him which for several hours he had, whilst others were speaking, completely ignored. He had no hesitation in accepting the statement of the Premier and Finance Minister that they had not brought in this as a Protectionist Tariff, and with no desire of doing injustice to anybody; but he thought that a case had been made out to induce the Finance Minister to strike out the clause relating to scrap iron, which it had been abundantly shown had created an invidious distinction, which had been made without any hope of revenue.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the importation of scrap iron, larger or smaller, must be included in the tariff. He held that scrap iron was in the proper place in the tariff now—that is, in the general list of iron paying five per cent duty.

If it were small, then the injustice could not be great, but it was not scrap iron to which the hon. member for King's (Mr. Domville) referred. His references were in reality to the article of bar iron. He detailed the circumstances under which Sir John Rose had brought in his tariff, when much exception was taken to the duty on puddled bar iron, formerly on the free list, and he said this was the article to which Mr. Domville alluded, as he would, he had no doubt, admit.

Mr. DOMVILLE took it as a prime necessity that puddled bars should be imported instead of pig, as we had ample facilities for producing the latter. When we could produce iron and coal in such close proximity to each other he saw no necessity for any restriction of the trade. When he told the House that British capitalists were willing to send out their capital and industry, it could not be thought hard when he entered his protest against a tax being placed upon them and their efforts to promote our manufactures. He had a personal interest in this matter, as lawyers had in their clients, as newspapers had in their columns. He was one who was living by the sweat of his brow. (*Laughter.*)

He had a great interest in this matter. When a tariff was brought in which would not allow us to send for our scrap iron from South America, our shot and shell from the West Indies, our skilled labourers from Europe, it was time for him to protest. He felt the vital importance of this matter, and though the members from his Province who supported the Ministry had not dared to stand up and object to the tariff, he, almost alone, would stand up in his place and protest against it. It was a gross outrage that his Province should pay a duty on the raw material, and although they might be governed by Ontario, he for one from the Lower Provinces would speak out. The day would come when the Lower Provinces would justify themselves and show they were a power in the country, although they might be told they were a source of expense, whilst Mr. Jenkins was paid 1,200 pounds per annum for doing nothing. They would still justify all that he was now saying.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that this was really too ridiculous. (*Laughter.*) There was a proper time for a discussion like this, but the present was not the time. It could not be expected that an answer should be given to all the hon. gentlemen said now.

Mr. DOMVILLE admitted it might be from the point of view of the Premier, but that was no reason why he should be prevented from urging his views. But the time would come when the Government would regret having forced such a tariff on the people. The Minister of Customs (Hon. Mr. Burpee) had said, and he was bound to believe him, that he had no idea of crushing any interest, but it must have struck him that the tariff pressed with undue weight on the hardware interests of St. John, in which he (Hon. Mr. Burpee) had an interest at one time. He could not think the tariff fair to manufacturers, or even to the country. Mr. Domville (who was continually interrupted by desk scraping and other noises from right of the Speaker) continued to say that if Her Majesty's loyal Opposition could not be treated in a fair, gentlemanly manner they would be obliged to take some means of vindicating themselves.

He concluded by saying that he believed that the Finance Minister had endeavoured to bring in a tariff as fairly as possible, and was convinced that when he saw the unequal manner in which it pressed, he would in his wisdom be inclined to place it upon a satisfactory footing.

Mr. PLUMB said he intended to utter the sentiments of the member for Mégantic (Mr. Richard) as well as his own. That hon. gentleman had said that they wanted Protection to protect the home industries, and that it was necessary to develop and establish these industries to give employment to immigrants coming to this country. He (Mr. Plumb) agreed with this, and said it was necessary to find employment for producers. The hon. gentleman to whom he had referred had also pointed to the fact that the skilled labour went to the United States because there were no means of employing it here.

Some interruption occurring at this point, the speaker (Mr. Plumb) maintained that every member had a right to express his views, although he might halt in his speech. (*Hear, hear.*) The country had a right to ask Protection, and had a right to ask that employment might by this means be found for skilled immigrants who came to this country. He conceived that every member of the House had a right, with his constituents at his back, to say what he had to say. If he could not, the hon. members had better remain in their constituencies. The hon. gentleman opposite had said Protection had not actuated him in forming his tariff, but that it was merely a tariff for the purpose of raising a revenue. The hon. member for Mégantic had advocated Protection, and he was glad to second that sentiment. (*Hear, hear.*)

The clause was then carried, as also were the remaining clauses of the bill, one by one.

The Committee then rose and reported the bill with verbal amendments.

The third reading will take place next Tuesday.

COMPOUNDING LIQUORS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions providing that all persons carrying on the business of compounding or mixing wine, brandy, or other articles containing alcohol, et cetera, suitable for use as beverages, shall be required to take out a licence for carrying on such business, et cetera, et cetera.

He stated that it was proposed to give the Inland Revenue Department of Canada the same powers as were possessed by the Inland Revenue Department of England for the purpose of detecting deleterious adulteration of food and liquor. The House would understand that the department would have power to examine the articles referred to. He proposed to make fuller explanations on the second reading of the bill.

The Committee having reported the resolutions,

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT explained that they had been modified so as at present to confine the department to the powers given by the English law, which simply dealt with the question of adulteration of articles of food and drink. The modification did away with additional duty.

The resolutions were adopted, and a bill founded on them was introduced.

* * *

THE (HURON) REFORM BILL

On motion of **Mr. CAMERON (Huron South)**, the House considered the amendments to the bill to amend Act 35 Vic., Cap. 13 by detaching the Township of Tuckersmith from the Centre Riding and annexing it to the South riding of the County of Huron, as amended by Committee of the Whole.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, **Mr. BOWELL** dissenting.

* * *

CLAIMS AGAINST VESSELS

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said he was satisfied the Government intended to take some steps to relieve the class in the interest of which he had introduced the bill to facilitate the recovery of claims against vessels. Therefore he moved that the order be discharged.

The order was accordingly discharged.

* * *

BOARDS OF TRADE

Hon. Mr. HOLTON, in the absence of Hon. Mr. Blake, moved the second reading of the bill to authorize the incorporation of Boards of Trade.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON also moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.—Carried.

EGRESS FROM RAILWAY CARS

A bill to provide for better egress from railway cars in case of fire was moved for second reading by **Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand)**.

The Bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.

* * *

RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. OLIVER moved the second reading of the bill to amend the General Railway Act.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he would like the matter to be referred to the Railway Committee before the House committed itself to the principle proposed.

Mr. OLIVER said he did not propose to interfere with the *pro rata* system, or with the reduction of the rate sanctioned by the Governor in Council. So far as the Grand Trunk was concerned he found that the rate from Sarnia to Portland adds two cents, from Toronto three cents, and from Montreal six cents. This bill provided that, when a reduction took place at one point, the reduction should be an equitable one, and should affect every point of the railways. He supposed, however, the bill could be better discussed in the Railway Committee.

The bill was then read a second time and referred to the Railway Committee.

* * *

THE LAW OF LIBEL

Mr. BROOKS said, in reference to the bill to amend and assimilate the laws respecting libel and procedure for indictments and information in matters of libel and other misdemeanours, that a similar bill had been passed in the Senate, and he, therefore, moved that the order be discharged.—Carried.

* * *

CREDITORS OF RAILWAY COMPANIES

Mr. JONES (Halifax), in absence of Mr. McDonnell, moved the second reading of the bill to facilitate arrangements between railway companies and their creditors. He said it was a precise transcript of the English law, and was intended to meet many circumstances which were likely to occur in the Dominion.

The bill was allowed to stand after a brief discussion.

* * *

ENGINEERS' LICENCES

Mr. COOK moved the second reading of the bill to provide for the examination and licensing of persons employed as engineers elsewhere than on steamboats. He said the law at present only referred to steamboats, but as accidents frequently occurred through boiler explosions on land, and in many large mills where 200 or 300 people were employed, the lives of these people should be protected as well as the lives of the people on steamboats.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asked when he proposed that the bill should come in force.

Mr. COOK replied, on the first of January.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the bill provided that engineers not employed on the steamboats should have a certificate which was to be obtained from the Board of Steamboat Inspectors, created by Parliament. The duties of the Board of Inspectors would necessarily be increased by this bill. The bill further involved a large expenditure of public money, and therefore should not be introduced by a private member.

He quite admitted that it was desirable to make the provision proposed, but it was a subject which required a good deal of consideration. It would be impossible to bring it into operation by the lst January. There was not time to make the necessary preparations.

Mr. BROWN was of opinion that the matter was one which deserved the consideration of the House.

Mr. COOK, under the circumstances, consented to withdraw the bill.

The order was then discharged.

The House adjourned at 11.30.

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES FOR 1873-1874

Charges of Management	$12,550
Civil Government	30,000
Administration of Justice	5,000
Police	6,000
Legislation	39,605
Marine Hospitals	7,000
Militia of Manitoba	280,000
Public Works, Income	425,215
Ocean and River Service	32,267
Lighthouse and Coast Service	43,825
Fisheries	12,000
Indians	57,455
Miscellaneous	65,562
Customs	40,639
Inland Revenue	500
Post Office	85,000
Public Works, Collection	62,550
Dominion Lands	110,000
Unprovided Items	177,532
Balances carried forward: On Penitentiaries	37,782
Immigration and Quarantine	40,000

Militia	235,772	Administration of Justice	2,500
Public Works, Capital	38,181	Legislation, Sessions of August and October, 1873	194,560
Public Works, Income	27,055	Pensions and Superannuation	15,000
Total	$379,213	Total	$2,612,046
Ocean and River Service	12,000		
Lighthouse and Coast Service	11,205		
Miscellaneous	15,805		

[*As addition of the above items does not produce the total as telegraphed, it is evident some error has occurred in transmission.—EDITOR.*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 11, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Several petitions were presented, praying for a prohibitory liquor law, and one against such a law.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) presented the fifth report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) presented the report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Quebec office for the culling and measuring of wood.

Mr. RYMAL presented the eleventh report of the Standing Committee on Standing Orders.

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ALLIANCE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Mr. RYAN introduced a bill to incorporate the Alliance Insurance Association of Canada.

The bill was read a first time.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Mr. YOUNG moved that a message be sent to the Senate requesting the Hon. Mr. Letellier de St-Just to attend the Select Committee on Public Accounts.—Carried.

* * *

QUEBEC CULLING OFFICE

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) moved that the report of the Select Committee respecting the Quebec office for culling and measuring wood be adopted.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this motion could not be passed. The report dealt with matters affecting the revenue, and, if adopted, would change the management of the office. It would take the administration of that office out of the hands of the Government. The Government would, however, be willing to consider the report, and adopt such measures as they thought the case required.

The motion was withdrawn.

THIRD READINGS

On motion of **Mr. MacLENNAN**, the bill to amalgamate the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Co. (Limited) and the Toronto Manufacturing Co. (Limited), under the name of the Electric and Hardware Manufacturing Co. (Limited), was read a third time and passed.

On motion of **Mr. PALMER**, the following bill was read a third time: To incorporate the Saint Croix Printing and Publishing Company as amended by the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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ADVANCED A STAGE

The bill to extend the powers of the Ontario Savings and Investment Society, introduced by **Mr. WALKER**, was read a second time.

* * *

QUEBEC GRAVING DOCK

Mr. CARON withdrew his question asking whether it was the intention of the Government to take any steps to secure the construction of a graving dock at Quebec and at the same time said he was gratified to learn that the Government had taken steps in that direction.

* * *

COPIES OF THE STATUTES

Mr. CARON asked whether it was the intention of the Government to provide for the constant application made on behalf of the newly appointed Justices of the Peace for the statutes of the past few years, especially of the volume of 1869, which contained so large a portion of the criminal code of the country.

Hon. Mr. DORION said these statutes were not printed in a sufficient number to distribute them to Justices of the Peace. It would be impossible to do this unless the House ordered the reprinting of the statutes.

* * *

PROPOSED LIGHTHOUSE

Mr. GOUDGE asked whether the Government proposed erecting a lighthouse on the Isle of Haute, in the Bay of Fundy, and when.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said it was not the intention of the Government to build any more lighthouses during the present year than those specified in the schedule which he presented the other day.

* * *

AGRICULTURAL SEEDS

Mr. FLEMING asked whether the Government would be willing to place in the supplemental estimates this session a sufficient sum to procure, by means of the various emigration agents in Europe, a small supply of agricultural seeds, for the purpose of having them tested in different parts of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was not the intention of the Government to ask for a vote for that purpose.

* * *

THE TWENTY CENT PIECE

Mr. CHEVAL asked whether it is the intention of the Government to cause to be withdrawn from circulation the twenty cent piece of silver coin, which is a nuisance to the public, owing to its similarity to the coin of twenty-five cents.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it was the intention to withdraw these coins from circulation as rapidly as they were presented at the banks.

* * *

PREPAID POSTAGE

Mr. CHEVAL asked whether it was the intention of the Government to take the necessary steps to provide that all postage on letters and papers should be paid in advance.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) said the Government had not yet decided what course they would take. It was not likely anything would be done in the matter this session.

* * *

BRIGADE CAMPS

Mr. STEPHENSON asked whether it was intended to muster the Active Volunteer Force in Brigade camps for drill during the present year; and if not, whether the annual drill will be ordered at Battalion headquarters or at Company quarters.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said it was the intention of the Government to reduce the force to about 25,000 effective men during the present year, and it was more than probable that the residue would go into Brigade camp during the present year.

The reply of the hon. gentleman was scarcely audible in the reporters' gallery.

* * *

BONDED WAREHOUSE AT SEAFORTH

Mr. FARROW asked whether it was the intention of Government to grant a bonded warehouse for convenience of the village of Seaforth and surrounding villages, said warehouse to be situated at Seaforth.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) replied that the Government could not grant a bonded warehouse at Seaforth until it was made a port of entry.

* * *

POTS AND PEARLS INSPECTION

Mr. LITTLE asked whether it was the intention of the Government to appoint an Inspector of the articles of commerce called pots and pearls in the city of Toronto for the convenience of those engaged in such trade in the west and northwestern districts and in the Province of Ontario generally.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said he would inquire into the matter and if it were found necessary in the interest of this trade to have such an inspector appointed it would be done as soon as possible.

* * *

TERMS OF UNION WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. ROSCOE asked whether there had been any negotiation between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government of British Columbia direct, or through any agent, in regard to any alteration of the terms of Union, and, if so, what has been the result.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there had been communications made through a special agent with the Local Government, but he was not in a position to state the result as yet.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RAILWAY

Mr. DAVIES asked whether the Government intended taking over the Prince Edward Island Railway from the Local Government of that Province with the wire fences as now erected on each side of the road. He said he desired to make some explanations with regard to the question. (*Cries of "Order".*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman could put a notice on the paper for Wednesday next. He would, however, answer the question so far as he could. The Local Government made the contract for the building of the road, and all the Dominion Government could do was to take possession of the road when the contract was completed. It was not competent for them to inquire into what changes had been made during the existence of the contract.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: What time is it contemplated to commence the operation of the road by the Dominion Government?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was reported that about fifty or sixty miles of road were now finished, or would be within a few days. The Government proposed to accept that portion of the road as soon as finished, and put it into operation. At present the time for the contractor to finish the road, he thought, was about the lst September, and they could not tell whether the contractors would deliver up the finished portion of the line or not.

* * *

HURON AND ONTARIO SHIP CANAL

Mr. BLAIN moved "That, inasmuch as existing means of transportation to the seaboard for the enormous surplus product of the vast regions having drainage into the Great Lakes and carriage to those regions of the required manufactures of the east are entirely inadequate to the demands of trade, and therefore increased facilities for these purposes are indispensable; and, it appearing that the Government of the United States, to meet these requirements, have appointed a committee to consider the whole question of cheap and speedily transportation, and the committee are now pursuing their labours; and inasmuch as the terms on which the British North American Provinces were confederated, the Dominion Government is pledged and, in duty bound, to improve the navigation of the St. Lawrence River and enlarge the canals thereon, so as to admit vessels of greater capacity to pass between Lake Ontario and tide waters; and, it appearing that the construction of the projected Huron and Ontario Ship Canal, between Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay, would greatly shorten the distance by water from west to east, and otherwise afford a better and safer channel of communication, a committee of seven members of the House with power to call for persons and papers be appointed to consider the matters above referred to, and to report on the feasibility of the scheme for the construction of the projected Huron and Ontario Ship Canal, and also on some uniform system whereby vessels of greater dimensions than those in present use, and of sufficient carrying capacity for the present and probably increased trade might pass from tide water to the head of the Great Lakes."

"That it be resolved: That it is expedient, and would tend to promote the interests of the Dominion, that Commissioners be appointed to confer with the United States Transportation Committee and discuss with it the feasibility of the scheme for the construction of the projected Huron and Ontario Ship Canal and proposed improved uniform water communication between the upper lakes and tide water required to meet present and prospective trade, and to report the results to this House, and any proposed aid that might be offered by the United States or any State thereof in furtherance of the proposed works or any of them."

In speaking to his motion,

Mr. BLAIN took up the subject of the manner in which Europe depended on the American continent for her grain supplies, and hence the necessity of having the nearest way of transport to the Liverpool market. He discussed the various routes to Europe from the Upper Lakes and the West. Carriage by water, he argued, was not more than one-fifth of the expense by rail. Many railways, including the Grant Trunk, had endeavoured to compete with our waterways, and hence their general failure. We might tap the whole continent to the foot of the Rocky Mountains via Lake Winnipeg and the rivers with the aid of canal connections of almost 500 miles. He gave the relative distances from Liverpool to Chicago via New York and Montreal, respectively, the latter via the Welland Canal, showing the immense advantages which this latter route offered.

He characterized the present barge canals as behind their time, and went on to say that via New York and the Erie Canal, including transshipment, the freight charges would be $16.50 per ton, whilst by the Huron and Ontario ship canal it would only be $12.65, a saving of $3.94 on each ton. Now, it was estimated that the total freight from the West to Europe was somewhere about twelve odd millions of tons a year, equal in all to a saving on one year's operations of about $55,200,000 over the best existing route, and about a hundred million if all went by the New York route. This was taking the grain on steam vessels, whilst, if the vessels were sailors only, the saving would be considerably more.

As to the time, he said it would take over twenty-seven days from Chicago to Liverpool via New York, while via the St. Lawrence it would only take fifteen days and a few hours. Here again would be a considerable saving. He spoke of the Erie Canal as having made the City of New York what it was, and of having earned upwards of ninety million, although under exceedingly bad management. He contended that the Upper Lake traffic was worth from one to two millions per annum, and, in consideration of the openings in commerce, there was room for the operations of this canal.

The Huron and Ontario Ship Canal would be far more beneficial and remunerative than ever the Suez Canal had been or could be, and would cost far less for both construction and maintenance. The Welland Canal and the St. Lawrence could not relieve the trade of the west; but we must have this Huron Canal and the St. Lawrence deepened, so as to accommodate vessels drawing not less than fourteen feet of water, with locks 370 feet long.

He had at first thought this Huron Canal to be simply a Provincial work; but on reconsideration he had come to the conclusion that the Provincial Legislature had no power to deal with the matter, but that the Dominion Government, and it alone, had the power to construct the work. Objection had been taken to the amount which it would cost; but forty million, the amount of the estimate, was nothing compared with the advantage which it would confer of securing the trade of the whole West. Montreal had many advantages over New York. Then, were we going to let all this trade slip by us and pass over American highways?

He advocated the construction of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal as well as the improvements of all the ways by which we could reach Lake Superior, and concluded by again expressing his belief that the construction of this Huron and Ontario Canal was a work of paramount necessity.

Mr. COOK approved of the Huron and Ontario Ship Canal. The Government should give a large grant of money to the scheme. It had been said that it was impracticable, and that it would cost too much, but all the land the Company wanted was ten million of acres, upon which they would furnish the necessary money, and would induce immigrants to settle, thus not only improving our waterways, but supporting our settlement. He quoted from Mr. Tully's report, which showed that Lake Simcoe would readily supply all the water which this canal would require; besides that, from the adjoining rivers there could be obtained an equal amount of water to that which Lake Simcoe could supply.

Our vast natural advantages were admitted by our neighbours to be far in excess of any which they possessed; then why not make use of them? Our lumber trade required far more means of communication, and this canal would be of equal service to that branch as to the shippers of grain.

Mr. BIGGAR asked how the hon. member for York West (Mr. Blain) proposed to build this canal.

Mr. NORRIS was gratified to find there seemed to be so great a feeling in favour of the improvement of our canals, but he could not see how the wonderful scheme of the member for York West was going to be accomplished, in view of the fact that the Government was pledged to the improvement of our present waterway. He thought we should carry out the schemes we had in hand. He was prepared to say that when the Welland Canal was completed on the magnificent plan which was proposed, we should have no need for this expenditure of forty or fifty million, as the facilities we should then have would be ample.

He read from the reports of the engineers to show that this Huron and Ontario Canal was impracticable, being a far heavier work than the Suez Canal, which had cost eighty million dollars, and had taken fifteen years to complete. The Huron and Ontario Canal would require forty-two locks. The rise above Lake Ontario was 470 feet, whilst the Suez Canal was throughout on a dead level. It would then be seen how heavy would be the expense of this work. The character of the climate of the country through which the Canal would pass was probably the severest we had. We should lose at least two weeks in the spring, and two weeks in the fall, and he thought this and the other objections sufficient arguments to show the impracticability of this work. Although this canal might be a saving of distance, he considered that the vessels might run the whole distance otherwise to be traversed in less time than they could navigate this canal.

If other works became necessary after our present works were completed the Government would, he had no doubt, pledge itself to such schemes as were feasible and would prove to be beneficial.

Mr. BIGGAR said that the Huron and Trent Valley scheme, which was now in the hands of the member for Peterborough East (Mr. Hall), would give all the communication that was now asked for without any expenditure of money on the part of the Government. He therefore trusted that the hon. member for York West (Mr. Blain) would waive his motion for the present.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) raised a question of order: Inasmuch as this proposition involved an expenditure of money, it should be initiated by the Government.

Mr. BLAIN said his proposition did not necessarily involve an expenditure of money. It simply affirmed the principle that a Commission was desirable, leaving the Government to take the action it considered proper.

Mr. DYMOND affirmed that this was no sectional scheme, but a national undertaking, and in that view should be a Government scheme. He did not apprehend that his hon. friend from York West (Mr. Blain) desired to press his motion, but to bring the matter before the attention of the Government, in order that in due time, they could take the action which seemed to them best. Alluding to the reports which had been made upon this point, and the diversity of opinion expressed, he thought the scheme should be considered dubious and a report made upon it by the first engineers, after which the Government and the country would be in a better position to take action.

Mr. GORDON advocated the construction of a canal across North Ontario from Lake Simcoe to Whitby.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presumed that his hon. friend was satisfied, now that he had had this discussion, and suggested that the resolution be withdrawn. It was one to which the House could not commit itself. The Government had no land in the vicinity of the proposed route, and could not give it the aid desired. The Government could not, on the ground of utility or necessity, aid the project, and the House could not seriously entertain the scheme at present. It would be useless to appoint a Committee or Commission, as they had all the information they required, and they could not authorize a Commission to the United States as suggested by the hon. member for York West.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER complimented the mover of this resolution on the able manner in which he had discussed this subject. The proposition would shorten the route to the ocean some four hundred miles, and for his part he believed that if the concession of the millions of acres would secure this work and by it one half the advantages held out by the hon. member for York West, it would not be paying too much for the advantages.

He said that an eminent engineer, Mr. Hawkshaw, had explained to him the great advantages of this work, a work which, taken up by private enterprise and aided with ten million of acres of land, he guaranteed could be brought to a successful completion. For his own part he favoured aiding as much as possible such a scheme, and believed that our lands in the Northwest could not be put to any better advantage than this.

At six, the House rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS

Mr. BLAIN said, in answer to the objections against his motion, that none of the objections of the member for Lincoln (Mr. Norris) would bear any considerable scrutiny. He proceeded to answer the objections, and recapitulated many points made in his observations upon making the motion. He again showed the advantages that would be obtained by the route he proposed.

He held, with regard to the objection of the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie), that the measure came within the jurisdiction of the Government, and dwelt with warmth upon the importance of the subject. They were now in possession of facts with regard to the matter which they did not before possess. He thought he had a right to ask for a Committee for the purpose, and

he trusted the Premier would see the advisability of the appointment of this Committee. There never was a matter in which there was more necessity for the appointment of a Committee.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said the Maritime Provinces had been charged with sectionalism in this matter. He was not actuated by any sectionalism with regard to the question. He merely desired that the route for the transport of grain from the West should be shortened.

He would not say that the canal could be commercially built. He considered it was reasonable for his hon. friend to ask for this Committee, and he regarded it as the duty of the Government to take action in respect to this Canal, if they could shorten the route from Chicago. He would support the motion, which he thought should be acceded to, as the question was one of the greatest importance to the Dominion.

Mr. SMITH (Peel) thought the bonus of ten million acres of land would be a good investment on the part of the country. The question of whether the canal would pay was a question for the Company, not for the House.

He said the matter was worthy of consideration. He did not mean to say that the Government was in a position to deal with the subject at present, owing to the large amount of business on their hands now. He, however, suggested that it should receive the favourable consideration of the Government.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the House had already determined upon the enlargement of the Welland Canal as a means of increasing the communication between the Upper Lakes and Lake Ontario. It was clear that we did not want both the enlarged Welland Canal and the Georgian Bay Canal, and the passage of this resolution would be the reversal of the deliberately framed policy of the country. He thought it would be easy to show the want of merit of this scheme, but he would not enter into that question, as he considered it better to meet the proposal on the threshold.

Mr. SCATCHERD thought the hon. member for York West should, instead of asking for a Committee of the House, have endeavoured to get up a Joint Stock Company to carry out the scheme, which he regarded as wild and visionary. He considered the work proposed was an unnecessary one, and that the existing canal was amply sufficient for the present.

Mr. PLUMB did not think he had ever heard this scheme spoken of in a serious manner. He had heard of it in reference to the advancing of the interests of certain parties. He trusted no Commission would be appointed for this purpose, and that the Government would not take any action in the matter. It was a subject which might be taken up by private speculators, but he hoped it would not meet with the approval of the House in any form.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE regretted that his hon. friend persisted in his motion. He had himself been member of a Committee which sat to investigate the subject some years ago, and another had been since appointed with a similar purpose, each of which made exhaustive investigations. He differed from the hon. gentleman in regard to the merits of the route, although he was unwilling to discuss that subject at all, and would not have done so now if he could help it. He thought the hon. gentleman should not force the House to a hostile decision on the subject.

The House and the country were indebted to the hon. gentleman for the able and eloquent manner in which he had brought the subject before their attention, but he thought the hon. gentleman should contend himself with that. The hon. gentleman was practically asking the House to consent to a reversal of the policy with regard to canals which had been deliberately adopted. He therefore advised him to withdraw his motion.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER thought the forcible appeal the hon. Premier had made to the mover of the motion would, if granted, advance the interests of the scheme, and on the other hand an adverse expression of opinion would militate seriously against it. He trusted his hon. friend who had made the motion would be content with the expression of opinion which had been evoked, and not prejudice the scheme, as he must do, by pressing it.

Mr. O'DONOHOE reminded the hon. member from Middlesex North (Mr. Scatcherd) that there was a Company already incorporated for the construction of this work, a million dollars had been subscribed, and $100,000 was in the bank at the credit of the Company. This motion was not before the House for the purpose of asking for $40,000,000 or any other amount, but simply for a grant of ten million acres of land, great portions of which were at present being sold to Americans for almost nothing. He denied that the adoption of the scheme involved the abandonment of any portion of the policy of the Government, and reminded the House that it was before the public long before the enlargement of the Welland Canal was a subject for consideration.

By making a grant of these wild lands to a Company we were practically holding out an invitation of the most potent character to the people of Europe to emigrate. Once we get the capitalists of Britain and the European continent to invest their money in a public work of this description on the security of a land subsidy, it would immediately be in their interest to transfer to the soil of Canada the surplus population of their own land, and they would thus become very powerful and very useful emigration agents. He closed by a strong and eloquent appeal to the House and the Government on behalf of the proposed scheme.

Mr. BLAIN then withdrew his motion.

* * *

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY

Mr. DEWDNEY moved a resolution declaring it was expedient that further surveys should be made for the Canadian Pacific Railway between Kamloops and Fort Hope on the Fraser River. He stated that on the Fraser River route the line could be obtained with a grade of ten or fifteen feet to the mile. He dwelt at length upon the advantages this route possessed over other proposed routes, and

asserted that from a commercial point of view the route from Kamloops to Burrard Inlet was far more desirable than any other which had been brought under the notice of the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he hoped the hon. gentleman would be content with having brought his motion before the House. Many of the statements the hon. gentleman had made were entirely new, especially with reference to the grade to be obtained in the valley he had referred to. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) could only say that the Government were entirely uncommitted as to any point of penetration in the Cascade Range. They desired to obtain the best possible road in order to meet the requirements of the public service in the most effectual way. At the present moment four surveying parties were at work in British Columbia, engaged in exploring the best possible lines throughout the country. He presumed the hon. gentleman would not ask the House to adopt a motion which might commit them to something which might not afterwards turn out to be exactly correct. He would not say anything as to the motion being out of order, or to the impossibility of passing the motion, but he hoped the hon. gentleman would be content with having moved his motion, and with having brought the matter under the attention of the Government.

Mr. De COSMOS had no prejudices against any port in British Columbia. He trusted that the time would come when there would be scores of harbours and scores of towns. He was prepared to support any port as the western terminus of the Railway, which, after a full report, should prove to be the best. Last winter Admiral Richards, of the British navy, said there was only one point which would do for a naval station and that was Esquimalt. He (Mr. De Cosmos) had taken the trouble to survey the whole country, and the decision of a number of Engineers was that the only port was that of Esquimalt. From a defensive point of view our Railway should be as far from the border as possible, and therefore it would be unwise to use the Fraser River route.

It seemed that from this point of view, and from a commercial point, the road should come from some point in Manitoba, via Tête Jaune Cache and Bute Inlet to Esquimalt. The route between Victoria and Burrard Inlet was in his view impracticable for vessels which had to make quick time. He was fully prepared to leave the matter in the hands of the Government and of the engineer, but he was prepared to say that any money spent on surveys between Burrard Inlet and Kamloops would only be so much money thrown away.

Mr. DEWDNEY said that he, too, was willing to leave the matter in the hands of the Government, and would withdraw his motion.

* * *

MANITOBA TIMBER LIMITS

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) moved for a return of all leases and sales of wood limits in Manitoba and the Northwest, the dates of the leases or sales, together with the terms of lease or purchase, and the name of the lessees or purchasers.—Carried.

* * *

RAILWAY MONOPOLIES: GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

Mr. BLAIN withdrew his motion for a Select Committee of seven members to inquire into the management of the Grand Trunk Railway, and whether first-class accommodations are furnished to passengers paying first-class fares, but hoped at a future day to bring up a motion for inquiry into the affairs of these huge monopolies, which were preying upon the whole of the country.

* * *

MOTION FOR REPORTS: FENIAN RAIDS OF 1866

Mr. COOK moved for copies of all reports, orders, and correspondence between the Militia authorities and the Militia or any other Department in reference to the military movements on the Niagara frontier in the year 1866. He explained that his object was to ascertain whether all the correspondence and orders had been published in the *Gazette* as stated to have been.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was impossible to understand what this motion might cover. All the Government could say was that they would bring down all the information which had not been already brought down, provided it did not interfere with the confidential or other arrangements that the Government might have made.

The motion was carried.

* * *

THE TARIFF IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. BUNSTER moved the adoption of the report of the Committee on the British Columbia tariff.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this was a proposition to institute a separate tariff for British Columbia, and should not be moved by a private member but rather be the work of the Government.

Mr. BUNSTER, in a speech of some length, demanded greater protection for the agricultural interests of his Province.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE hoped the hon. gentleman would withdraw his motion, which could not come up here.

Mr. BUNSTER said if he were allowed a few minutes he would show the Government that his motion was a desirable one. The present tariff was all for the benefit of the United States, but the one proposed would be for the benefit of Canada. British Columbia could not be built up without expense, and the building up of the Province would contribute to the welfare of the whole Dominion. He contended that there were lands in British Columbia now yielding nothing, from which the Government might be deriving two or three hundred thousand dollars a year.

Mr. De COSMOS also pointed out that the motion was out of order. He perfectly sympathized with the hon. member for Vancouver.

The SPEAKER suggested that the motion, being out of order, should be withdrawn.

Mr. BUNSTER censured the hon. member for Victoria for, under his pretended sympathy, refusing to aid him in getting what he (Mr. De Cosmos) had been sent to Parliament to secure. He denied that British Columbia would have jumped into the Confederation trap if she had not had held out to her the promise of a Pacific Railway and a protective tariff, one which would suit them, which that of the Canadians did not.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER pointed out the impropriety of Mr. Bunster pressing his motion to a division, as it would injure the object he had in view. He reminded the mover of the resolution that by a rule of the House it could not be put, and advised him, now that he had got the matter before the House, to withdraw the motion.

After some remarks from Mr. Cunningham (New Westminster),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said, before they proceeded further, he thought they would see that the motion did not go on the *Journals of the House*, and that, out of order though it was, a discussion had taken place on it.

The SPEAKER declared the motion out of order.

* * *

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. IRVING moved for a Select Committee to consider what changes it is desirable to make in "The Act to amend the criminal law relating to violence, threats and molestation," 35 Vic., Cap. 31, and that such Committee consist of the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald and Messrs. Laflamme, Mackay, De Veber, Moss, Jetté, and the mover.

He said that the law in question had reference to differences between masters and servants, and both in this country and in England it had caused great dissatisfaction. He pointed out as one of the anomalies under this Act that if a workman threatened his master, he was considered guilty of a crime, but if he threatened a woman, he was not looked upon as guilty—at least, not to the same extent. This law also provided that if a workman endeavoured to persuade his fellows to do something which would be against the interests of their employer, such as to work a shorter time than they were doing, he would be liable to imprisonment. He considered this class legislation of a very objectionable character.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that there was no objection to the motion passing. There was no doubt that the present law was in a great measure one which discriminated against a particular class, and he thought that if there was any country in which special legislation with reference to working men was not needed it was this. He, however, had no objection to the appointment of the Committee.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PROVINCIAL TAXATION OF TRADE

Mr. MILLS moved for correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario in reference to certain provisions of the Municipal Act of Ontario, in which municipal bodies are empowered to impose discriminating taxes upon the trade with other provinces and with foreign countries. He said that if the municipalities have the powers conferred by the Municipal Act of the Ontario Government they would be able to frustrate all the commerce arrangements of the Dominion Parliament so far as those municipalities were concerned.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that the Government would have no objection to bringing down the correspondence. He was not sure any existed but if any was found, it would be brought down. Of course it was not proper that one Province should have powers with regard to imposing duties which another had not.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) asked the mover of the resolution for further explanation with regard to the matter.

Mr. MILLS said that in the County of Kent municipalities had been charging hawkers of sewing machines, not made in Canada, for licences to sell them. If any Province were allowed to have this power the Dominion Legislature might enter into a reciprocity treaty with the Americans, and the Province, or any particular municipality, might still impose discriminating duties on American goods brought into it.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER was sorry that the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald was not in his place to explain the circumstances under which the Act received the sanction of the Crown, but he thought the power complained of was granted to Local Legislatures under two clauses of the Confederation Act. He confessed, however, that the case presented some difficulty, as urged by his hon. friend from Bothwell.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) defended the provision in the Ontario Municipal Act, which gave Municipalities the right to protect themselves against hawkers, pedlars, and other outsiders who adopt a similar system of disposing of their goods.

After a few words from Mr. Stephenson,

The motion was carried.

* * *

THE ROYAL COMMISSION

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved for a statement of all expenses connected with the issuing of the Royal Commission entrusted with the examination of the charges made by the Hon. L.S. Huntington against the late Administration.

The motion was carried without discussion.

* * *

RICHIBUCTO HARBOR

Mr. McLEOD moved for copies of the contract for removal of a wreck at the entrance of Richibucto Harbour. He said $10,000 appeared, from the public accounts, to have been paid for this work, which he was in a position to know was never performed.

The motion was carried.

* * *

RIVER SAINT JOHN

Mr. COSTIGAN moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the improvement of the navigation of the River Saint John, with power to send for persons and papers.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was out of the question to send for persons and papers at this time of the session, and he advised his hon. friend to drop that portion of the motion.

Mr. COSTIGAN agreed, and the motion as amended was adopted.

* * *

PRINTING COMMITTEE

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved concurrence in the third report of the Joint Committee of both Houses on the printing of Parliament.

Mr. STEPHENSON suggested that the papers connected with the precedence of the Foot Guards should be printed for the Sessional Papers as well as for distribution, and that the adoption of the report should be postponed for that purpose.

After some discussion it was agreed to allow the reports to pass, and bring the matter up in the Committee tomorrow, when a report recommending the printing of the document in the manner referred to could be adopted.

The motion was agreed to.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. McKAY moved for papers and correspondence relating to the contract for the construction of section 22 on the Intercolonial Railway.—Carried.

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THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Mr. STEPHENSON moved for copies of the report of the Geological Explorations and Surveys in 1872 in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories by Prof. Bell.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD advised his hon. friend to withdraw the motion, as they were at present in the hands of the printers for publication by the Department.

The motion was accordingly withdrawn.

* * *

TENT SPRING

Mr. STEPHENSON moved for reports and correspondence relating to Freeman's patent tent spring. He explained that this was a matter in which volunteers were particularly interested.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. member evidently intended to make the Government express an opinion upon this subject, but in this he would fail. He advised him to expunge that portion of the motion.

Mr. STEPHENSON agreed to do so, and the motion, with this amendment, was carried.

* * *

THE CIVIL SERVICE

Mr. WALKER moved for a statement showing the number of employees in each Department of the Civil Service of the Dominion, giving the name of each employee and his age, when first appointed to the service, also his occupation prior to his appointment, and the country in which he was born. He complained that the present system was unsatisfactory and needed amendment. In view of the growing importance of the public service, he thought it was time that nominations to public positions should cease to be made for political purposes and from political motives, and he strongly advocated a system of competitive examinations, such as was adopted in England, Prussia, and other European countries. By this means the very best men would be secured for the public service. It would be a sort of premium upon good education throughout the country.

But beyond this there was the great underlying principle of right in favour of the proposed change, and he felt certain that every man who had the exercise of any amount of patronage for any length of time would be bound to confess he had frequently to do wrong to his own conscience in order to make the appointment he made to suit his political necessities. He felt certain the country would welcome a radical change in this respect, and he trusted the Government would allow the motion to pass.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER thought the remarks of the hon. member for London would lead to misconception of the Civil Service. He did not think the hon. gentleman understood rightly the relations between the employees and the Government. He had no hesitation in saying that it would be difficult to find a service more creditably or more faithfully performed than this service. He showed also that the service itself was not so remunerative as to induce young men of talent and industry to aspire to it. The difficulty was, not to find the ablest men from competitive examination, but to find them at all, and he considered the present service demanded their highest thanks.

The motion carried.

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COAL FOR THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

Mr. McLEOD moved for a return of coal purchased for the Intercolonial Railway in New Brunswick during the years 1872-1873.—Carried.

* * *

THE STE. JEANNE DE NEUVILLE PARISH

Mr. De ST-GEORGES moved for correspondence in the matter of the offer made by Mr. John Webb, of Cap Santé, for the purchase for manufacturing purposes of a certain point of land, in the parish of Ste. Jeanne de Neuville, formerly acquired by the Imperial Government for military purposes.—Carried.

* * *

SIX NATIONS INDIANS

Mr. PATERSON, in moving concurrence in the second report of the Select Committee on the condition and affairs of the Six Nations Indians in the counties of Brant and Haldimand, said the Committee had been careful to report nothing to which the Ministry could possibly object, and they desired that the Government should consider the report during the recess, and frame a measure upon it.

If the House generally considered the material interest of the people, that was no reason why they should not consider occasionally questions affecting the moral interest of the people. The Six Nations Indians were people whose claims should not be overlooked by this House. The money distributed among them annually was their own money, and they were not the debtors of this House. They were staunch allies of Great Britain; they were the Iroquois alliance formed in 1600 who always supported the British flag. The money which they now received was merely the interest on the value of the land which they had surrendered.

These people, however, had no political status and no control in the affairs of the country. They were treated as minors; they were not allowed to feel that they had any responsibility, though they had as keen intellects as the members of this House. A radical change was necessary in the management of their affairs, in the direction of the report of the Committee.

In 1868, Mr. Langevin, then Secretary of State, advocated the enfranchisement of these Indians, and in 1869 an Act was introduced to provide for the gradual enfranchisement of these people; and yet not one of them had been so enfranchised, though they were fully capable of performing the duties of free men. The fact was, however, that by the Act the only result of obtaining enfranchisement was to render them liable to pay taxes and be sued for rent. They were, then, only entitled to a life interest in their land. They ought to give them land in fee simple with right to sell, mortgage, and devise their lands. He repudiated the idea that these Indians were not capable of holding land, but would, if given these lands in fee simple, immediately alienate them to speculators.

The reason why the Indians had not advanced in late years was that they had been held in a state of tutelage. He believed it was left to this Government to put down oppression in all shapes, and he hoped the Minister of the Interior would find time during the summer to visit the Indians personally.

A clause of the Act provided that an Indian woman who married a white man should forfeit the privileges of an Indian woman. The result was that a premium was put upon immorality. He considered that the intermarriage of Indians and whites was a benefit to the white race. They ought to remove all barriers between races in this country.

The land before many years would become too small for the Indians, according to the present policy of shutting them up on their reserves. He contended that the Indians should be allowed to remove from their reserves without forfeiting their share of the interest in the Crown money. These people held their land in common, and though they recognized the right of different families to certain portions of the soil, there was no record of the separate holdings or of the transfers of land which took place within the common holding. He had a desire to benefit his country in this matter by benefiting the Indians, and to see the richest township in the county of Brant, instead of being a ground for Canada thistles, cultivated by Indians who owned their own land. (*Cheers.*)

He concluded by saying that a measure that would deal out justice to the Indians, that would transfer them from savages, bring them up to the level plane of manhood, and give them their rights would of itself be a living monument to the Ministry who would introduce it. (*Tremendous applause.*)

Mr. OLIVER alluded to the conferring upon the Indians of the fee simple of the land. This was a point which should be considered in an exceedingly careful manner, inasmuch as there were both Indians and outsiders who desired to get hold of the lands. He thought too that the privilege of Indians selling their wood should be carefully guarded. Then, too, the protective clauses should be re-enacted, so as to prevent merchants selling them goods at exorbitant rates, and that with the knowledge of the Indian Agent. Too much time was used in paying the Indians, besides which, spring was too late a period at which to pay them. All these matters required grave and serious consideration. We had to look after the interests of the natives of the country, and had to adopt the best course towards them. In evidence it had come out from Indians themselves that but few of them were fit for enfranchisement, and he should advise the Minister of the Interior to be careful before he placed them in a position in which they might do much injury to themselves.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) said that he could not agree, as a lover of the red man, to the Indians being placed at the mercy of white speculators. Seeing that they were dealing with the original possessors of the soil of this country, let them show they were Christians, and that they were willing to accord equal rights to all men. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. FLEMING said that the hon. gentleman who opposed the resolution of the member for Brant South (Mr. Paterson) mistook the object of the resolution. It was not proposed to give the Indians so much control over their own affairs that they could alienate their lands if they so desired, but to give those who were qualified to

hold property independently the privilege of doing so, while there were restrictions imposed to prevent those who were not so qualified from letting those possessions go out of their hands without getting full value for them. What was desired was to have the Indians become as rapidly as possible so mingled with the whites, that there would be complete equality between them.

After a few words from **Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand)**, in support of the motion,

Mr. PATERSON replied to various remarks made in the course of the discussion. He denied that the object of his motion was anything but the advantage of the Indian tribes in Brant. It was true that he desired to see the waste lands of the country made productive, but he wished to see this done by the Indians. He asked them if it had been a mistake to give the franchise to four million of coloured people in the United States, some of whom were now making themselves heard in the legislative halls of their country, and were able to deliver better compositions of their own than he could produce.

He regretted the speech of the hon. member for Pontiac (Mr. Wright) who had imputed specious views to him (Mr. Paterson) in his statement of the case, which that hon. member had stated was overdrawn. He disclaimed most emphatically any speciousness in his arguments. The hon. gentleman had never seen these Indians himself, and he contended that many of them, instead of living on berries and herbs, lived as comfortably and inhabited as good houses and farms, spoke as many languages, were altogether as intelligent, and were quite as fair as either himself or the hon. member for Pontiac. (*Applause*.)

The motion was carried.

* * *

NORTHWEST DIFFICULTIES

Mr. GEOFFRION moved that the Select Committee on the Northwest Difficulties of 1869-1870 have power to report from time to time.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House do now adjourn.—Carried.

The House adjourned at 1 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 12, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Several petitions were presented.

* * *

REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. RYMAL presented the tenth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:—

By **Hon. Mr. ABBOTT**—Respecting the Montreal Northern Colonization Railway.

By **Mr. O'DONOHOE**—To amend the Act incorporating the Western Assurance Company, and extend their power.

Mr. JETTÉ—To incorporate the International Express Co.; also to incorporate the Colonial Investment and Building Association; also to incorporate the Rouge Boom Co.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—To amend the Act respecting Public Works in Canada.

By **Hon. Mr. DORION**—To amend the Act respecting Vagrants.

* * *

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented the returns connected with sections 1 to 17 of the Intercolonial Railway, moved for by Hon. Mr. Tupper.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**, the papers were referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

* * *

INSOLVENCY LAWS

Hon. Mr. DORION introduced a Bill relating to Insolvency, and moved its first reading. In doing so he said, in the first place, that he proposed to abolish voluntary assignments, and before a debtor would be able to go into insolvency, at least two of his creditors, having claims to the amount of $500 each, must be consenting parties. (*Hear, hear.*) This was for the purpose of preventing debtors from menacing their creditors into the acceptance of inadequate compensation by the threat of going into insolvency—an evil from which arose a great deal of mischief under the present law.

The second change was that official assignees would be officers of the Court, and that instead of writs of attachment being directed to the sheriff in the first place, they should be sent to the official assignees at once. A considerable increase in expense had been the result of the system of transfer hitherto adopted.

The third change was to make the sheriffs the official assignees whenever it was possible. It was impossible to do so in all cases, because the Government would thus lose control of the assignees, and they therefore reserved the power of appointing one in every judicial district, or several as joint assignees where the business required it. They would be officers of the Court, and under the control of the Court in every respect. The official assignee would thus take hold of the matter at once, and if at the first meeting the creditors did not elect another he would continue to be the assignee for the estate. The emoluments of the assignees would be fixed by law, but if the creditors found that in certain cases higher remuneration was necessary they could so order it. He also proposed that no assignee shall hold the proxy of any creditor.

He was told that in some parts of the country assignees had been in the habit of obtaining and voting the proxies of creditors while they were frequently very heavy creditors and very deeply interested themselves. It was, in his opinion, an injurious practice and one which he desired to see stopped. The creditors would themselves have the power of appointing inspectors, and when they neglected to do so the judge would have the power of making the appointment. The assignee might at any meeting of the creditors be displaced, and another appointed in his stead. He would also be bound to make a deposit in the bank by way of security, which could not be removed except on the joint cheques of the assignee and inspectors, or the order of the Judge.

Assignees would no longer have the power of deciding the validity of claims. That would be in the hands of the Judge. At present the assignee first gave a decision from which the creditor could appeal to the Judge, and the power was also given to appeal against the decision of the Judge to the Court of Appeal or the Court of Review, as the case might be. The appeal would now be direct from the Judge to the Superior Court. Although the assignee nominally gave the decision heretofore, he was generally a person incompetent to arrive at a judgment in the premises himself, and the Customs was to submit the evidence to a lawyer, who decided, and thus the cost of an assignment was very materially increased. It was

far better, as was provided in the Bill he had just introduced, to make the assignee receive the contestation, and let the Judge summarily decide the question.

He proposed that in case of a sale of real estate, it should only pay the amount of expense attending the sale; if there was a surplus it should go to the credit of the general estate. If a property had been advertised for sale, and the expenses incurred necessary to bring about its disposal were in excess, it was at present within the power of the assignee, by order of the Judge, to stop the proceedings and begin them again *de novo*, thus incurring a large amount of additional expense. This would be discontinued under the new Bill.

It was also customary for the official assignee, in paying over the proceeds to the Sheriff, to retain not only his own expenses but a certain commission, which the Sheriff in turn repeated before paying over to the creditors. The Bill would provide that the money would be handed over directly to the mortgage holders and preference creditors generally, and the balance to be distributed amongst the other creditors in the usual way, thus saving the expense of double commission.

Perhaps, however, the main feature of the measure was that referring to incorporated Companies. In dealing with these Companies he felt a good deal of difficulty on account of the large and extensive interests affected by the changes he proposed in regard to those Companies. The first of these was that the same notice must be given to them as was given to private traders, and the power to contest a demand for the same reasons as a private individual. If the Company did not contest the demand, or if the judgment of the Court was that the demand was right, the official assignee would immediately take surveillance of the estate, so that the Company would be unable to give any preference whatever to any creditor. The winding up of the Company would be in the usual fashion. With these explanations he moved the first reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said his opinion always had been that they ought not to discourage voluntary assignment, and that while giving the insolvent debtor the power to go into insolvency at the earliest possible moment, they ought to provide that the insolvent should not receive a discharge until he had paid a certain minimum percentage. He should give the Bill his cordial support.

At this late period of the session, however, he thought it was impossible to give a measure of this importance the attention which it was entitled to. They were expecting to be dismissed within ten or twelve days, and not only would this measure keep the House at least a week longer, but it would now be impossible to obtain the view of merchants throughout the country, which it was desirable they should have. He suggested that this Bill should be printed and considered by hon. members between this and next session, and that in the meantime a short Act should be passed continuing the present law for another year. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he heartily agreed with the member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake)—(*Hear, hear*)—and pressed upon the Minister of Justice to adopt the suggestion which had been made.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) concurred on several of the proposed amendments, but thought considerable changes should be made. He thought no insolvent should receive a discharge until he had paid a certain percentage on his debts. He pointed out several points on which the Bill might be amended in its application to Nova Scotia. He thought that at this late period of the Session the measure could not receive that careful consideration which it required. Hon. members were hoping to be relieved from Parliamentary duties at close of next week, and the time allowed was not sufficient for a due criticism of the Bill. He therefore agreed with the remarks of the members for Bruce South and Cardwell, and hoped the Government would be content with printing and circulating the Bill, and postponing the passage of it until the next session.

Mr. COLBY said he believed the evils arising from an Insolvency Act were greater than the benefits, but there was no doubt that the mercantile classes were largely in favour of an insolvency law. He concurred in every suggestion of the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion), as a step in the right direction. He believed that almost all the evils of which complaints had been made had arisen from the principle of voluntary assignment. He, therefore, hoped the Government would not modify their measure in that direction. If voluntary assignments were adopted, however, he saw no objection to the minimum percentage being fixed, but if they adopted the compulsory winding up of estates, it would be unfair to fix a minimum. He hoped that the Minister of Justice would not depart from the principles he had laid down in this Bill. He thought, however, that it was perfectly impossible to carry the Bill through this session.

Mr. YOUNG agreed as to the necessity of delaying the passage of this Bill. He thought it unfair that when a debtor had been forced into insolvency a lien given within four weeks after the assignment should be held good for the whole claim. He believed the principle of this law was of Quebec origin, and was altogether different from the English law on the subject. He believed the tendency at first was to make the law too favourable to the debtor, but now he believed it bore rather harshly on the debtor. He thought the principle of voluntary assignment combined with a minimum percentage would be preferable to compulsory assignment. He agreed with most of the amendments proposed by the Minister of Justice.

Mr. CHISHOLM believed that voluntary assignments should be retained, and that every class should have the advantage of going into insolvency.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) hoped the Bill would be allowed to stand over till next session, but he thought that in the short Act which was to be passed a provision should be introduced to prevent insolvent limited liability companies from sweeping the whole of their assets into their own pockets.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL also urged the postponement of this measure. He suggested the extension of the measure to ship owners and lumbermen, who did not come within the definition of traders.

Mr. OLIVER would give the Bill his cordial support if it could be extended to the whole of the people. He hoped it would be laid over until next session.

Mr. De COSMOS rose amid loud cries of "Carried", and said that British Columbia was very anxious to continue the present bankruptcy law.

Hon. Mr. DORION said voluntary assignments did not take place in England though there was a minimum amount fixed. In the United States, voluntary assignment did not exist either. In this Bill he had not adopted the formalities of either country. The Bill was not to be extended to British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, or Manitoba, for the present. He was very glad to have heard the discussion, and would give the suggestions his best consideration. It seemed to be the general desire of the House to postpone the measure till next session. (*Hear, hear.*) About half the Bill was in the hands of the printers. His attention had been called to the point raised by the member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young), and if that was the law in Upper Canada, it ought to be abolished at once.

The Bill was then ordered to be read a second time tomorrow.

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MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down a message from His Excellency, signed by own hand.

The SPEAKER read the message as follows:—

"The Governor General transmits for the information of the House of Commons a copy of a despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated the 3rd September, 1873, in reply to an Address to Her Majesty on the subject of naturalization treaties. (Signed) Dufferin."

* * *

THE SEAMEN'S ACT

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House tomorrow go into Committee of the Whole to consider resolutions to extend certain provisions of the Seamen's Act of 1873 to vessels employed in navigating the inland waters of Canada.—Carried.

* * *

CUSTOMS CHARGES IN RUPERT'S LAND

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that the House tomorrow go into Committee of the Whole to consider resolutions to extend to the lst July, 1874 the period limited by the first section of Act 36 Vic., Cap. 39, as that to which the duties of Customs chargeable in Rupert's Land at the time mentioned in said section shall be continued without increase in the Province of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.—Carried.

* * *

QUEBEC GRAVING DOCK

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House tomorrow go into Committee of the Whole to consider resolution to authorize the Quebec Harbour Commissioners to raise by loan a sum not exceeding $400,000 for the construction of a graving dock at Quebec.—Carried.

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY

On the order for the House to go into Committee to consider certain proposed resolutions relative to the Canadian Pacific Railway being called. [*Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's resolutions are to be found in the* Journals of the House of Commons*, 12 May 1874, pp. 221-224.*]

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, in moving that you do now leave the chair, I propose to ask the attention of the House for a short time to some remarks that I propose to make in connection with this measure. I shall endeavour, Sir, to confine myself as closely as possible to a simple business statement of what I conceive to be necessary in submitting the resolutions of which I have had the honour to give notice.

The duty is imposed upon the Government of providing some scheme for carrying out the obligations imposed by the solemn action of Parliament in this place. The original scheme, Sir, was one that I opposed at the time of its passage here, as one that in my mind then seemed impracticable within the time that was proposed, and impracticable, I may say also, with the means proposed to be used to accomplish it. I have not changed that opinion but being placed here in the Government, I am bound to endeavour, to the utmost of my power, to devise such means as may be seen within our reach to accomplish, in spirit, if not in the letter, the obligations imposed upon us by the treaty of union, for it was a treaty with British Columbia.

During the passage of the resolutions through the House or through the late Parliament of this country, I expressed my mind very freely as to the nature and extent of the obligations which we were then assuming, and I expressed a very strong conviction that the passage of that measure would necessarily almost result in future calamity, certainly in future complications, which might seriously affect the political position of parties and the political position of the country generally. Sir, unfortunately—I say unfortunately, because I could wish it were otherwise—unfortunately, all that I anticipated has been fully realized. The difficulties have arisen.

The late Governments were able, although with some difficulty, to carry their resolutions through the House. They were able, though with difficulty, to get a majority of both Houses of Parliament to sustain them in the very extraordinary measure that they proposed—extraordinary, because it was not demanded by the Province of British Columbia. The Province of British Columbia confined itself to what seemed to me at the time a not unreasonable proposition. They were content with a proposition that this country could very easily have carried out, but the Government of the day, for some inexplicable reason, went so far beyond what the Province considered a fair and legitimate demand, as to place the whole country in jeopardy from having undertaken a work so prodigiously in advance of what might be supposed to be the fair resources of this country.

It is worthwhile to glance for a while at the extent of this obligation. We know already the difficulties that have been experienced in constructing the Intercolonial road, the construction

of that road having been part of the terms of Union between the Lower Provinces and the old Province of Canada. We know that that road which we had to construct was only five hundred miles long; that there was ready access at every point almost along its whole course to the sea; that there was the most ample means provided in every way for carrying that road to an early and successful completion; and I recollect very well the ardent expectations entertained by many of the zealous advocates of Union. I am not sure, Sir, but I was myself among the number expecting the early completion of the road, although I did not anticipate its completion at so early a day as many other members of the old Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada. I rather went into that work, Sir, as a necessity of the Union. I was not in favour of undertaking it at all as a commercial transaction, but as a political necessity I accepted it, and went loyally into every means necessary to secure its completion.

But I recollect very well that some prominent gentleman in political life anticipated that that road would be constructed within three years, and anticipations were indulged in on this floor in 1867, when the Act was passed providing for its immediate commencement and construction, that within two or three years—three years the outside—we should be able to make the railroad journey from the City of Halifax to connect with the railway system of the old Province of Canada. Well, Sir, the three years have passed, and four years more have passed, and it will take at least a year, probably two years, before it will be possible to realize the accomplishment of that very desirable wish to have a complete connection between the system of railway East and West.

Yet, Sir, in 1871, when the difficulties were thoroughly understood, and it was quite apparent that the contracts for the construction of that smaller work could not be completed within two or three years of the time that was anticipated, under these circumstances, and at this time, the late Parliament of Canada, under the guidance of the right hon. gentleman opposite, gravely undertook to construct a road five or six times the length of that to which I have alluded, pledged the honour and good faith of this country to its commencement within two years—that is, the commencement of the actual work of construction—and pledged the honour and good faith of the country to its entire completion within ten years.

As I have remarked, I thought at the time this was an exceedingly extravagant undertaking, and I appealed to the House, not as a mere party opponent of the right hon. gentleman, but as one who felt a great interest in the accomplishment of the Union which we were then discussing—as one who was pledged, if anyone in this country was pledged, to adopt every reasonable proposal which could be undertaken to accomplish the complete unification of British America.

The difficulties which had to be encountered in constructing a railway at least 2,500 miles long, throughout a country almost entirely uninhabited, possessing a population of only 15,000 to 20,000 people, and that in the centre of the continent, with a point at which to begin on this side where no person lived, and a point on the other end where very few people lived, the difficulties, Sir, were enormous. With no settled points for the road except these two, and the point where it might touch Lake Superior, it had to traverse a country east of Fort Garry and west of the Rocky Mountains, remarkable for its rough natural features and the engineering difficulties which were sure to present themselves. However, Sir, the work was undertaken and we know that precisely what was anticipated has taken place.

The hon. gentleman opposite, with his Ministerial majority, succeeded in getting the undertaking assumed by Parliament, and of course, they took the most extensive powers possible in order to implement their engagement. They took powers so extravagant that I was obliged at the time to call the attention of Parliament to them; but with all these powers, with all that authority which they vested in themselves, after sending a delegation they accomplished, what? Why, Sir, they accomplished absolutely nothing. (*Hear, hear.*)

They never received one single offer of any amount from any body of capitalists, or from any company, unless indeed, we except the famous Sir Hugh Allan Company, which was a mere combination for the purpose of finding capitalists who would undertake it. They had no capital themselves, and did not pretend to have any. They relied entirely upon the success of their mission to England, which proved an entire failure. We have had no history presented to the country of that mission yet. We do not know what proposals were submitted in London, or to whom they were submitted. All that we know is that a delegation of the Directors of that Company went to England, passed some weeks or months there, did nothing, came back, and threw up the charter, thereby acknowledging their utter inability to carry out the undertaking. (*Hear, hear.*)

Sir, the incoming Administration were placed in a position of peculiar difficulty in connection with this matter. We had to undertake to vindicate the good faith of the country, and do something which would enable this Parliament to carry out, in spirit if not in letter, the serious undertaking of building this railway as far as the shore of British Columbia. The local terms are exact. We are bound, within a specific time, to construct a road to connect with the railway system of Ontario on the east to the Pacific Coast on the west.

Mr. BUNSTER: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: There is a moral obligation beyond the legal obligation. I recollect quite well, although I do not intend to base any argument upon the fact, that when the British Columbia delegation was present in this city, and one of its members, Lieutenant-Governor Trutch, was speaking at a public meeting on the subject and referring to speeches made by myself and other gentlemen on the floor of this House, he declared his impression to be that the exact terms of the resolutions that were passed, endorsing the Union, could only be adhered to if it were in the power of the country to accomplish what was required.

We know that Sir George-Étienne Cartier, the gentleman then leading the House, the Leader of the Government being then absent at Washington, was appealed to in order to quieten the apprehensions and make smooth the objections existing amongst his followers, which were known to be so great as to make it nearly

impossible to carry through the measure. When thus appealed to he came down to Parliament and moved the following resolution, which was adopted:—"That the House will tomorrow resolve itself into a Committee to consider the following proposed resolution:—That the Railway referred to in the Address to Her Majesty concerning the union of British Columbia with Canada, adopted by the House on Saturday, the 1st April instant, should be constructed and worked by private enterprise, and not by the Dominion Government; and that the public aid to be given to secure that undertaking should consist of such liberal grants of land and such subsidy in money or other aid, not unduly pressing on the industry and resources of the Dominion as the Parliament of Canada shall hereafter determine."

Well, Sir, we now desire the gentlemen who undertook that responsibility to show us how it is possible to construct a railway 2,500 miles long, with a population of four millions, passing during almost its entire length through an uninhabited country, and for a still greater proportion of its length through a country of a very rough character. How it is possible to have the exact terms of the Union observed, and at the same time have no extra taxation pressing unduly upon the resources of the Dominion, is a question which presents itself for solution. I believe it is utterly impossible to do so. (*Hear, hear.*)

I believe there can be no question that whoever builds the road, and whenever it may be built, it must be constructed with money furnished by the people of this country. It is true, Sir, that we have a vast extent of land, the great proportion of which is good, that may perhaps be sold and yield a considerable amount of money. We all hope it will do so, but we must not adopt such a measure as will effectually exclude, as I believe the measure of the late Government would have excluded, settlement, and prevent the growth of the country. (*Hear, hear.*)

We are reduced then to the necessity of considering whether we will attempt to keep up a fictitious price for land, or make it so cheap as that it merely requires the railway to be built to command immediate settlement by a large population. We know, Sir, that the obligations imposed by the building of the road will not terminate with the conclusion of its construction. Supposing it only takes the minimum amount estimated by Mr. Sandford Fleming, $100,000,000, you may have a pretty good appreciation of what it must cost the country in the end. When you double the debt of the country you will not be able to accomplish the borrowing of the sum of money that would be required to build this road, paying the attendant expenses of management, and the debt and everything else connected with it—you will not be able, I say, to borrow the requisite sum of money below six per cent on the amount. If you add six per cent upon the minimum amount to the existing obligations of this country, you will have, in addition to our present annual burdens, six million of dollars, which added together would make a continuous application of twelve million of dollars before you have a cent to apply to the ordinary business of the country.

Then we come to the consideration of what would be the position of the road after it was completed, supposing we were able to fulfil the obligation which gentlemen opposite undertook; and supposing we finished it in seven years, we have Mr. Fleming's authority—assuming him as an authority, and I think he is very much within the bounds—that until at least three millions of people are drawn into that uninhabited territory, it is quite impossible to expect the road to pay its running expenses. Mr. Fleming estimates these at not less than eight million dollars per annum, and they have still further to be supplemented by the proportion of money required each year to renew the road. It is known, however, I believe, to railway authorities, that considering the difficulties of climate and with the ordinary traffic, the road will require renewal—that is, the renewal of sleepers and rails—every eight or ten years on an average. No doubt with steel rails substituted for iron the time for their renewal would be considerably enlarged, but to what extent I am at present unable to say. However, we may assume that it would be very much longer than the duration of the ordinary rails.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: What do you estimate as the duration of the ordinary rails?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: From eight to ten years. That at least is the opinion of Mr. Walter Shanly, whom I assume to be competent authority. Supposing, then, that the road were completed, we would have, in addition to the burdens imposed upon us by the interest of the money, to provide for the working of the railway a sum at least equal to that amount, or six millions every year, in order to keep it in repair. I present those statements not as my own, but as those of the engineers in connection with the enterprise, as well as some of the most eminent engineers we have, who have been entrusted with the greatest works constructed on the continent.

Before proceeding further, let me refer to an additional obligation assumed by the right hon. gentleman opposite. We were bound by the terms of Union to reach the seaboard of the Pacific wherever we could touch its waters. There our obligations ended; but the late Government undertook that the terminus should be placed at the further extremity of the Island of Vancouver, thus adding about 240 miles to the obligations already existing.

But that is nothing. We happen to know something more, and I think it was known at the time that an Order in Council was passed, which I shall not accept as an obligation entirely binding upon the country, but one which we have to regard from the point of view I shall present to the House. At present we know from the surveys of the country by engineers who have undertaken the work, that after reaching Bute Inlet you have still to traverse, if you carry the railway to Vancouver Island, a distance of 50 miles before you reach the narrows between the island and the mainland; and from that point where you leave the mainland till you reach Vancouver Island there are another 30 miles to be traversed. Upon these 30 miles we have no less than 3,880 feet of bridging, in a distance almost exactly equal to a mile and a half, a work of a much more formidable character than the bridge over the St. Lawrence at Montreal, composed of spans varying from 300 feet to 1,350 feet. The current at this point is reported by the engineers as running from four to nine knots an hour.

Besides, in the distance of 50 miles from Bute Inlet to the point where you leave the mainland, there is a very large number of tunnels to be constructed, varying from 100 to 3,000 feet in length, and at the islands before you reach Vancouver you have the

heaviest kind of work known to railway engineers. Upon these eighty miles, between Waddington Harbour and Vancouver Island, there is work of the most formidable character.

These, Sir, are the chief difficulties that present themselves to our minds, and these are the facts relating to the question of the obligations which this Parliament is bound to carry out in order to maintain the good faith of the country. It therefore rests with the Government to take such measures as they think necessary in order to carry out as nearly as may be in spirit, if not in letter, the resolutions adopted by the late Parliament. Under these circumstances, the present Government assumed office.

With all these facts staring us in the face, we could not but be aware, as we were quite aware, that the difficulties to be surmounted were of an extraordinary character. We were quite aware that British Columbia claimed that the terms of Union were already violated. The right hon. gentleman opposite gave it as his opinion—and I have a very great regard for his opinion upon legal questions generally—that the work of construction was commenced when the surveys were commenced. Whether he was correct or not I do not think it necessary to say at the present moment. It will be remembered that a surveyor was sent by the Government of the right hon. gentleman to Esquimalt at a critical moment to drive in some stakes, in order to make it appear as if this were a commencement of the work.

We thought in the first place, after having had time to consider what should be done, that the best course to pursue in the meantime would be to confer with the Local Government of British Columbia, and endeavour to ascertain from them if any means could be arranged whereby an extension of time could be procured for the prosecution of the works which we were bound to take. With that view a gentleman was sent as a representative of this Government to that Province, and in the course of his negotiations with the Local Government it became apparent, as it has been apparent in this House from several members from the Island of Vancouver, that it was an exceedingly important matter in their estimate that the road should be commenced at once at Esquimalt, and traverse the Island to that point where the crossing of the narrows was ultimately to be.

I for one was quite willing, if the Local Government were disposed to make some terms for the extension of time, to undertake the construction of the Island portion as rapidly as possible; but if it became apparent that the local authorities were determined to adhere rigidly to the terms of Union, and demand the whole terms and nothing less, this House and the Dominion of Canada, I was and am strongly of opinion, would on their part concede to them the terms and nothing more. (*Hear, hear.*)

Proceeding upon the belief that this was a fair representation of the opinions of the country, which had to pay for the construction of this enormous work, we instructed Mr. Edgar, who was appointed to represent the Government in the matter, to say that the Government would be prepared to undertake immediately the commencement of the work upon the Island, traversing it northwards in the direction of the point of crossing, prosecute the surveys on the mainland, construct a passable road along the ridge, and erect a telegraph line along the road, and as soon as the work could be placed under contract we would expend a million and a half a year within the Province. I do not know whether the offer will be accepted or not, and in the meantime it is absolutely necessary that Government should have authority to proceed with the commencement of the works in such a way as they think we will meet with the acceptation of the country generally, and the reasonable people in British Columbia.

There was a very considerable amount of criticism indulged in by the right hon. gentleman opposite when I avowed my own views on this question in my election address to the people of Lambton in November—when I avowed my impression to be that we could in the meantime utilize the inland waters, connecting them by branches of railway, building such sections as were absolutely necessary as quickly as possible, and in this way completing, probably with the time fixed for the final completion of the road, but certainly very soon, means of transcontinental communication between British Columbia and the Eastern portion of the Dominion. And, Sir, I think I recollect the right hon. gentleman stating that if my views were carried out, or attempted to be carried out, British Columbia would be justified in seceding from the Union. He was holding out to them all the encouragement that his distinguished position in the country enabled him to do, to make matters as unpleasant as possible, and to secede from the Union, if they liked. (*Hear, hear.*) I have a better opinion of the people of British Columbia, Sir, than to believe that they will for a moment think of adopting the extreme view of an extreme and desperate party leader. (*Hear, hear.*)

We are bound, Mr. Speaker, to consider, in reference to this measure, the general interests of the country as well as our obligations, and it may well be that a nation may sometimes undertake obligations which she is never able to carry into effect. Whether the right hon. gentleman has committed that act of folly or not, time will tell. I have no doubt, myself, at all that that folly has been committed.

That policy, Sir, which I indicated, of using the water communication between Lake Nipissing, where the road was to commence, and the Pacific, was one adopted in good faith—one which I believe would be beneficial to the whole Dominion; one that in the meantime would serve the interest of British Columbia reasonably well, until time would enable us, by increased wealth and developed resources, to carry to completion the enormous project upon which we had entered. I pointed out in a former speech on this subject that if we once could reach Red River at a comparatively small expense—probably not more than one million dollars—we would be able to utilize the water communication by Lakes Winnipegosis and Manitoba and the Saskatchewan River, or by another route pass along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, and by a short railroad pass the only formidable rapids on the Saskatchewan, and then, during the summer months we would be able to reach the pass of the Rocky Mountains by steamboat communication at a small cost.

The more I have investigated this plan, the more I am convinced of its perfect utility; and even if we were to proceed immediately with the construction of the road through the prairie country, the

navigation of the Saskatchewan River is almost essential to carrying out our operations. Unfortunately the part of the country which will cost most and will be most difficult of access is that from the Rocky Mountains westward. This portion of the road, although not approaching in mileage the portion eastward, is much more expensive. From about a hundred miles west of Fort Edmonton to Bute Inlet, the entire cost is estimated at no less than thirty-five millions of dollars, and as we can only begin there at the Pacific, an idea can easily be conceived how slow the progress must be. Mr. Fleming has called our attention to the fact that, although he thinks the road might be built for a hundred million dollars if plenty of time were allowed to build it in, yet if undue haste were used he would not be surprised if double the estimate should be found insufficient.

Having these facts before us it becomes absolutely necessary, in my opinion, to adopt the mode suggested in that speech of mine to which so much exception was taken, that is, to utilize the water communication in the centre of the continent as far as possible. Since the last communication made to the House, or rather to the country, the survey has partially been completed from Lake Nipissing westward—not an instrumental survey, but such a survey as to enable the engineer to say there are no engineering difficulties between Lakes Nipissing and Nipigon, a distance of 557 miles. From Nipigon to Red River, a distance of 416 miles, there are no formidable engineering difficulties, though the nature of the country makes it expensive to build.

We proposed to build the road from Pembina to Fort Garry as our predecessors did. During the elections great capital was tried to be made out of this, and statements were made by hon. gentlemen opposite to their newspapers that this was in consequence of some bargain with the Northern Pacific Railway, and it was stated that the Northern Pacific had something to do with the previous transactions, which I do not propose to discuss now, as I intend to confine myself to the matter before the House. I may say that I never knew anyone connected with the Northern Pacific Railway; that I never had any communication with or through them, or anyone connected with them, good, bad, or indifferent; and any statements to the contrary are simply without foundation; and I challenge anyone in this House, or out of this House, to produce anything to the contrary.

But it became evident, Sir, that the construction of these sixty-five miles of railway would be necessary in order to get into Manitoba. It was evident that if the railway should be completed through the United States from Duluth to Pembina we would have an easy mode of communication with Fort Garry, a point on the great road itself; and that it would be important to be able to commence the line in both directions with the view of getting immigrants from the United States and Europe into the great prairie country as rapidly as possible. We decided to lose no time in building this branch of the great Pacific Road, and I have no doubt this branch will be in operation in little more than a year from the present time if the House passes the vote which we have asked for this purpose. Thus we will have the means of commencing the road from the western point of the Fort Garry section.

I have now to point out what the scheme of the Government is in relation to the construction of the road itself. I have already said I consider the building of this road to be something that has to be borne by the people of the country. It is quite useless to expect that this road can at the present time, or for some time to come, be regarded as purely, or even partially, a commercial enterprise, because I do not expect that any commercial advantage can by any possibility arise to a Company constructing this road for many years to come; and as I believe in a perfectly frank, honest expression of opinion in regard to these matters as the only mode by which the affairs of the country can be legitimately carried on, I give free expression to my views in that matter.

In regard to the branch from Fort Garry to Pembina which I think has some commercial advantages which may fairly be expected within a short time to yield some return for the outlay, at present there is no doubt that the commercial advantages would not be great unless we throw upon it a great deal of the traffic in connection with the Pacific road proper.

We propose, then, in these resolutions to ask the House to agree to this general proposition. In the first place we have to ask the House for complete power to proceed with the construction of the road under the Terms of Union with British Columbia, because we cannot throw off that obligation except with the consent of the contracting parties, and we are therefore bound to make all the provision that the House can enable us to make to endeavour to carry out in the spirit, and, as far as we can, in the letter, the obligations imposed on us by law.

We ask, therefore, for power to accomplish this, if it can be accomplished, and at the same time we propose to divide the road into several sections, one from Nipissing westward to Nipigon, a distance of 557 miles. This is a section which we do not consider at all necessary or desirable to proceed with at the present time. It is not one that in any way involves in spirit the obligations entered into with British Columbia, if it should be allowed to stand for the time.

We propose to make another section from that point or some point on Lake Superior where the Nipigon River presents, according to our present information, some considerable advantages. In order to have a complete summer connection through our own territory, it appears to be clearly necessary that this section should be proceeded with.

Hon. gentlemen will remember that the Saskatchewan takes a long detour southwards, and we do not propose to utilize the navigation at that point. We therefore propose to build the railway from the Red River to the point where we can reach the Saskatchewan without making a detour to the south. This would therefore leave somewhere in the neighbourhood of between 600 and 700 miles. I cannot tell the precise distance, for the distances are all approximate. There have been no measurements; they are taken from astronomical points ascertained, making some allowance for bending one way or the other. They are purely approximate, but perhaps they are not very far from real truth.

From that point westward it is quite clear that there is no means of rapid communication except by building a railway, and this portion in British Columbia alone would take $35,000,000; and from that point which Mr. Fleming calculates as the centre of the Rocky Mountains eastward to the junction with navigation would probably be $100,000,000, or something like that. This portion we propose to proceed with as rapidly as we are able to obtain a completion of surveys. There are now four parties of surveyors in British Columbia, one exploring party proceeding along the Cascade Range with a view to finding some other points where that formidable range could be penetrated from the plateau to the ocean. At present the easiest point appears to be Bute Inlet, especially if we look to the connection with the Island. The shortest route, however, is that which takes the Fraser River, and terminates at Burrard Inlet. That is some 50 or 60 miles shorter than the route whose termination is at Bute Inlet, according to the distances already ascertained, but the engineering difficulties are still more formidable.

In no portion of the Cascade Range has yet been found a favourable passage; that on the Fraser River is the most favourable, but it presents engineering difficulties almost insurmountable. To Bute Inlet there is a descent of 3,500 feet in the course of a very few miles, making an average of over one hundred and fifteen feet to the mile, and there are very formidable obstacles to traffic passing eastward. Still, if no better route presents itself in the course of explorations this summer, it is probable this route will be adopted by the Government. We do not commit ourselves to any portion not thoroughly surveyed.

I believe it is absolutely necessary in constructing a great railway that there should be a thorough exploration and survey before it is commenced. I do not believe that any time is gained by the other course. I know our friends from British Columbia are very impatient for the actual work to be commenced, but it is impossible to commence works of construction until the plans on which they are constructed are decided upon. It would be very easy to commence at Bute Inlet to grade the road, and so keep within the terms of the Union Act, but I scorn to practise any deception in the matter. (*Hear, hear.*) I desire to be perfectly frank, and I say it is utterly unsound in practice and principle to commence the work until we know the precise point where the work should be undertaken. It would be a great mistake in the interests of British Columbia itself to commence the construction of the railway, and a year afterwards, after spending perhaps a million or more, to find that we might have obtained a road more favourable in its route and in other respects.

We know that though Mr. Fleming had been engaged four years in the survey of the Intercolonial before a single sod was turned upon the line, his surveys were in such a state of incompleteness that it cost the country a great deal more than it need, and would perhaps cost more yet, besides giving rise to difficulties and to heart-burnings among the contractors, who alleged they had been deceived with regard to the character of certain sections. I have these complaints before me every day. Every gentleman knows who hears the motions made in this House from day to day for papers in connection with these contracts that a serious blunder was made at the beginning, and that arose from the commencement of the work before a complete survey of the road had been made. We are now pushed by our friends from British Columbia to commit a similar blunder, but in a greatly enlarged and aggravated form. For, if it took four years to survey the Intercolonial Railway passing through a country which was reasonably well known, how much more difficult must it be to survey the country from the Rocky Mountains west, which is characterized as an enormous plateau, with mountain ranges rising to a height greater, in some cases, than the highest passes in the Rocky Mountains themselves.

We are told, as a matter of fact, that thirty miles from the Pacific the mountains are higher than the most elevated of the Rocky Mountain range. The country is almost entirely unsettled, and is a most difficult road from an engineering point of view. It is intersected at various points by large, rapid, and most dangerous rivers, and presents some of the most formidable engineering obstacles. The Government, therefore, feel that they would not be justified if they did not prosecute as rapidly as possible a full and complete survey of the country before they commenced the road, if that road is to be anything like a success. (*Hear, hear.*)

I have a firm belief in a great future for Canada. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) I have a firm belief that the vast prairies of the West will, even within my own lifetime, be filled with millions of a busy population—(*Cheers*)—that the vast mineral resources of British Columbia will be developed, and that its agricultural resources will prove much greater than at present we have reason to think they are. (*Hear, hear.*) And, Sir, we have also reason to hope for traffic upon this road that will make it a commercial success. Whenever it becomes necessary to use it as a commercial highway, you would find the difficulty which would be created by having it poorly surveyed and badly graded. There are various modes by which this character of railway has at several times, and in several countries, been constructed, and I think it might not be at all unprofitable to glance at some of the modes by which other countries have accomplished the building of some of their roads.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD suggested that as it was now within a few minutes of six o'clock, and the hon. gentleman was entering upon a new portion of his subject, that he should reserve his remarks until after recess.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE agreed to do so, and the House accordingly rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Mr. Speaker, before the House rose I was about to refer to the mode adopted in other countries for constructing works of this character involving the expenditure of large amounts of money. There are several countries in very much the same position as ourselves which have undertaken the construction of railways upon a large scale.

If we take, for instance, some South American nationalities, we find in constructing the Plata River Railway, or the Central Railway, as it is otherwise called in the Argentine Republic, which is about 247 miles long, the plan was adopted of granting money to

the extent of $32,000 per mile, and a guarantee of 6 per cent upon that amount for 40 years. This railway passes through the Plata Valley which contains about 900,000 square miles, with a population of three million, or three souls to the mile—a country somewhat smaller than Canada, but with a climate, in many portions, somewhat similar. We find that the Southern Railway in the same Republic was constructed by a guarantee of seven per cent by the Government on 700,000 pounds sterling; another by the merchants, of 25,000 pounds sterling, equal in all to about $5,000 per mile. The Northern Railway, also in the Argentine Republic, received a guarantee of seven per cent upon 750,000 pounds sterling for twenty years.

In Chile the only railway of any consequence constructed in the same manner is that from the seaboard at Valparaiso to Santiago, a distance of 114 miles. It was undertaken at first by a company, the Government taking two-fifths of the shares and the Company the rest. The company worked so badly, however, that Congress finally bought out the shareholders who had begun building the railway, and borrowed seven million dollars from the Barings in order to enable them to complete the road. The road was projected to be completed in 1850 and opened for traffic in 1873.

Russia is another country possessed of vast resources in land as well as in money, or more properly speaking, in credit. In 1857 the first great railway corporation was organized in Russia under the name of the Grand Russian Railway Company. It was organized chiefly by French gentlemen who intended to construct a road from St. Petersburg to Varsovie (Warsaw), at a cost of seventy million dollars, another branch from Petersburg to the Prussian frontier at a cost of nearly nine millions, and a third line from Moscow to Nizhny Novgorod (Gorky) at a cost of $20,400,000, all of which were completed in 1862. A fourth and fifth line were also undertaken by the Company, the one from Moscow to Theodosia (Feodosija) and the other from Orel to Liban (Liepaja). The Company received, in the first place, for the first three sections, a guarantee of 5 per cent upon a certain amount of capital, the expenditure upon which the guarantee was payable being $110,500,000; they afterwards asked an increase upon this guarantee, and also 5 per cent equal to $114,651 per mile, on the fourth line, instead of 5 per cent on $75,428. This was refused by the Russian Government, and they finally undertook to pay interest on $89,887,700, an actual subsidy of $21,000,000, and released the Company from its obligation to build railways No. 4 and No. 5.

In Portugal, one of the European countries in which railways have been built under the immediate supervision of the Government, the mode of procedure has been one of the two following. The Government initiates some of the railway projects; they first decide upon the line to be built, the mode after which it is to be constructed, and the principal towns at which it is to touch, and then they invite proposals from capitalists. These proposals are based upon a careful consideration of the form of tender given the Government to the intending contractors, and sometimes they are put up publicly to auction. Generally speaking, however, the tenders are received, and the one that presents the most advantageous terms is accepted, subject to subsequent ratification by Parliament. Sometimes, companies organize a scheme themselves and submit their scheme to Government, with plans and specifications, with all the information necessary to enable competing Companies to make a tender. The scheme is then advertised, and if any parties offer more advantageous terms, then the original projectors are at liberty to accept those terms for themselves; if they do not, it is put up to auction and sold to the highest bidder. In that case Parliamentary consent is not required.

Several railways were built under this system, the first being from Lisbon to Santarem and the interior towns, the Government paying six per cent for 50 years, with one-half for a sinking fund, and a bonus of two per cent. The second was from Bariere (Barreiro) to St. Ules, with a subsidy of $8,500 per kilometre, or say $13,000 per mile, with a free grant of all the timber and Government lands, the absolute subsidy of the roads becoming the property of the Company. The third was built by a French Company, from Lisbon to Cintra, the Company receiving a valuable grant of land in the neighbourhood of Lisbon by which means they expected to be able to recoup themselves. The fourth, from Lisbon to Oporto, was built by an English Company with a subsidy of $27,000 per kilometre, or in the neighbourhood of $40,000 per mile, with the timber, mines and mineral lands within one-half a mile of the road, as they might be able to discover them.

The French railways have been constructed on a somewhat mixed plan. The State has surveyed the entire system of the country, for which they retain a corps of engineers. When a road is considered necessary, it is located in this way by the Government Engineers. Ties, rails, sleepers, and so on are contracted for upon specific terms. Under this mixed system there is no doubt the French railways have been a perfect success. There has been a greater measure of safety and prosperity than on English lines, because they have been built and are worked under direct Government supervision, and are free from the competition which has done so much to injure the English and American systems of railway; undue competition has been entirely avoided, each railway having a fair country to draw upon for its traffic. Up to the last date I have, I find in certain returns the Government have advanced somewhere about $200,000,000 while private Companies have advanced nearly four times that amount. Since the date of that return some heavy outlays have taken place in that country, and I merely refer to the matter in order to instance the mode of building as one from which we might derive some instruction.

One of the most prosperous British Colonies, New Zealand, is doing some work of a similar character to the Pacific Railway. Although in New Zealand they have no federal system of Government, practically it functions as if it does, so far as the land is concerned. Each Province has a municipal Government which controls the land, and they have given these lands as security to the contractor. No calculations could be based upon them, however, our circumstances being different entirely from theirs.

The Irish railway system has been partly aided by the Government. Government have advanced a very considerable sum, about $10,000 per mile, on the Irish railways, giving security for interest upon the stock at the rate from 3 1/2 to 5 per cent, the average being 4 per cent.

The system of guaranteeing the payment of interest on the stock seems to have worked well in British India, where we have instances of enormous railway works being constructed under the direct supervision of the Government by organized Companies; the Government guarantees a dividend to the stockholders of from 4 1/2 to 5 per cent for a period of 99 years, at the end of which time they become possessors of the railways, unless other arrangements are made. Under this system the roads are reported to be very successful, and the dividends have, in some cases, been made up by the income, there never having been serious deficiency. On the great lines the Government have one Director on the Board who entirely controls the action of the other Directors in regard to the rates of passage and the price of freights, and preserves complete Government supervision over the whole railway system. The only provision made for any return to the shareholders is that after the dividend is paid, if there is any profit, half goes to the arrears of interest and the other half to the shareholders.

And now, Sir, with regard to the system this Government has by these resolutions proposed to adopt, I am reminded by some of the Opposition newspapers that it is practically the same as the scheme of the later Government. I am told by those newspapers that I only propose to build this railway by grants of money and land as was proposed by our predecessors. Sir, as we have nothing else to aid them with, it would be difficult to say how I could propose any other system. (*Hear, hear.*)

But there is this difference between the two schemes. We frankly recognize the failure of the attempt to give a fictitious value to lands in order to get English capitalists to take up the railway, but we also frankly confess the necessity of building the railway by direct money subsidies or a combined system of giving both money and land. There is this difference, however, Sir, between their system and ours, that they took power from Parliament to make an arbitrary arrangement with any company that they chose, and they were not to be subject to any supervision by the Supreme Court of Parliament in this arrangement. We propose to give a specific sum per mile, in the first place, of $10,000, and in the next place a grant, the same as that proposed by the late Government, of 20,000 acres, the disposal of which I will attend to presently, and then we invite intending competitors to state the amount for which they will require the guarantee at four per cent, in order to give them what they may deem a sufficient sum wherewith to build the road. We know that some think $10,000 per mile and 20,000 acres of land, supposing they realize on an average a dollar an acre, will not build the road. It would more than build it in some parts, but from end to end, it is evident it will not build it.

I do not know, and I have no means of estimating, the probable expenditure per mile further than that to be derived from our own experience and that of our neighbours. The Intercolonial Railway will cost about $45,000 a mile, traversing on the whole a very favourable country and possessing the most ample means of access at various points on its course, with the additional advantage of having procured the iron structures and the rails at a time when there was a very great depression in the prices of iron.

The Northern Pacific Railway, in the accounts published by the Company, has cost, so far as it has been carried—that is, to Red River—$47,000 or $48,000 per mile in round numbers. Well, Sir, that road traverses almost wholly a prairie region, a region easily accessible, where materials were easily found; and it is altogether quite as favourable as the most favourable spot of any part of our territories, with this advantage: that it was much nearer to the producers of supplies than any portion of our line, except that on the immediate borders of the lakes.

The Central Pacific I will not touch, as the cost of that road was so enormous as not to afford any guidance at all, because of the extraordinary amount of jobbing connected with it. But judging from the cost of our own railways, we have no reason to suppose that it will be possible to construct this line from end to end at less price than $40,000 per mile, and it may exceed that by several thousand dollars. Parts of it will, of course, exceed that very much though in the whole of the sections east of the Rocky Mountains something in the neighbourhood of that figure will cover the outlay. Well, Sir, we propose to donate $10,000 per mile to the companies, and a guarantee of 4 per cent on a sum to be named by them in their tenders, and whatever sum they may name will be the determining point as to which of the tenders is the lowest, the grant of land being also absolutely in each case 20,000 acres.

But I believe it is an evil system to place any large quantity of our lands in the hands of companies, and the Government therefore propose, while giving 20,000 acres per mile, to retain the entire control of the sale of two-thirds of these lands in their hands, and only to convey absolutely to the Companies one-third of the land to be given altogether. I am quite aware that this proposition is likely to depreciate the value of the lands to some extent in the eyes of companies who enter upon it as a commercial transaction and we do not expect any companies to enter upon it in any other light. Wherever a company proposes to do it from mere patriotism we may be sure there may be some mistake. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) Hon. gentlemen opposite may well laugh, because we had an instance of that, and we know how it turned out. (*Hear, hear.*)

But it is much better, even if that should be the case—even if it should in the eyes of the contracting public depreciate the value of the lands to some extent—that the Government should retain in their own hands the entire control of the greater proportion of these lands, because I attribute a very great deal of importance indeed to being able to throw in settlers to all parts of the country, and filling it with population, which is the only thing which can ultimately give commercial value to the road or prosperity to the country.

It will be observed, Sir, that in the resolutions, as I have mentioned, the Government provide for the submission of these contracts to Parliament. They provide also that in case we receive no proposals for the building of what are called the sections in the Bill, that is, any of the four great divisions, the Government take power to issue proposals to build the road by direct Government agency. That, however, will be subject also to the ratification of Parliament. We do not expect that any company will make a proposition to build a shorter portion than one of the sections I have indicated, that is, from Lake Nipissing to Lake Nipigon, 557 miles;

from Nipigon to Red River, 416 miles; or if we take any point of departure on Lake Superior, from that point wherever it may be, then from Red River westward to Fort Edmonton or the point where we may make a connection with the section west of the Rocky Mountains.

These are the four great sections, and it may be quite advisable, quite possible and altogether the best thing that can be done, that each of these sections should be built by an independent company instead of having one grant company monopolizing the entire system of contracts. That is a matter which is more one of detail, however, than one of principle, and I merely mention it because we have divided the country into these sections for the convenience of getting tenders from companies which might not be powerful enough to undertake the whole, but might be able to undertake a part of it; and also because in the central region we do not intend at present to invite any proposal for immediate execution.

The British Columbia section will, of course, have to be proceeded with as fast as we can do it, as it is essential to keep faith with the spirit, and as far as possible with the letter, of the agreement. *(Hear, hear.)* The branch from Pembina to Fort Garry we propose in the Bill to take absolute authority to build immediately; and as we expect to begin the work of construction some time during the present year, we will not propose in the Bill to reserve that for the sanction of Parliament.

In connection with a through line upon our own territory, it will be observed that we have proposed to build from the mouth of French River, on the Georgian Bay, if that shall prove to be a favourable harbour, as we have every reason to believe it will, eastward to the neighbourhood of the place where it was proposed originally to commence the road, that is, on the southeast of Lake Nipissing—we are not able to indicate the precise spot in the absence of definite surveys. This branch will probably be from 80 to 85 miles in length, and we also propose to get the authority of Parliament to subsidize existing or projected lines connecting that branch with the railways tending eastward, so that if this road and its connecting lines were complete, passengers might leave any of the Lower Provinces, any part of the Province of Quebec or the Province of Ontario, and travel upon that line up the Ottawa Valley, and on the subsidized line to our own branch, take the steamer on the Georgian Bay, and again connect with the line at Lake Superior, and thus have a complete system through the whole length of the Dominion through our own territory. That is the plan we propose in the Bill we have submitted to Parliament, and it is one that I venture to hope will secure the approval of gentlemen on both sides of the House and of the country at large.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: Is it intended that there shall be two branches—one on the Ottawa River, and one to the roads connecting with Toronto at Nipissing? What are the distances?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I am not sure of the distances. It is intended to subsidize two branches, but the principal one will be that tending towards the Ottawa Valley, and that for a very obvious reason. There are means of communication now to points on Georgian Bay, to Lake Huron, connecting with the entire Ontario system, so that it is no very great hardship to get from any part of Ontario in this quarter to Georgian Bay; but it is tolerably evident to anyone who takes the map that a road going upward in the Ottawa Valley to the neighbourhood of Pembroke, or somewhere farther north, and then taking a direct line on what we believe to be a most favourable gradient to the mouth of French River, will give by far the shortest route to the Northwest Territories from any point on the Ottawa River, and particularly from Montreal and places east.

I do not know, Mr. Speaker, that it is necessary that I should say anything further in elucidation of the resolutions that I propose to submit to the House. There is one point, however, that I desire to say a word or two about before I sit down, more in explanation of what has taken place in British Columbia than either in defence or explanation of the Government policy. It will have been observed, Sir, that there was a good deal of excitement, not to say commotion, in that Province over some proposed aid to be given for the building of a dockyard for that Province. Under the terms of Union it was provided that this Government should guarantee the interest on 100,000 pounds sterling for ten years at 5 per cent, for the completion of that work.

A short time after I had been in the Government, representations were made to me by members from that Province that the attempt to get the dock built with this guarantee had been an entire failure, and asking the consideration of the Government for a new proposal. That proposal, I found, had been submitted to our predecessors, the late Government, and it was essentially that the Government should advance to that Province a sum of $250,000, to be paid out as the work progresses, instead of giving a guarantee for 5 per cent interest on 100,000 pounds sterling for ten years.

After careful consideration, we felt it was of great importance to British and Canadian commerce—for although Canadian commerce is small as yet on the Pacific, we hope to see it become a very large commerce—we felt, I say, that it was extremely desirable that facilities should be given at that place both for commercial vessels and vessels of Her Majesty's navy. We have found within the last few days, indeed, that a great convenience results from Esquimalt being a naval station, as the Government has on several occasions obtained the aid of one of the gun boats usually stationed there to perform what is really Dominion or Provincial service, and we felt quite justified in accepting the proposal of the British Columbian Government, through some of its members here, to advance the sum of $250,000.

If Parliament should approve of the measure we have submitted, a resolution which is on the paper—and which I shall move as soon as these resolutions are disposed of—will authorize the Government to carry this out. It was assumed in the Province that we had agreed to this modification in favour of British Columbia as a way of offering some sort of inducement to them to make reasonable terms in reference to the building of the railway.

It is, Sir, one of those modifications that one might reasonably expect to have such an influence on the provincial mind there, but that there was ever a word passed on the subject between myself and the hon. member for Victoria who sits behind me concerning any bargain of this kind I utterly deny. There was no word, from first to last, about any terms whatever. We merely thought this was

one of the modifications of the Terms of Union in favour of the Province that circumstances seem to have called for and that the Government was ready to concede for the benefit of the Province and the interests of the Dominion. (*Hear, hear.*) The Government will feel bound on all occasions to consider anything of that kind in the same spirit, and whether the British Columbian Government and Legislature make any reasonable modification in the terms of Union or not, it will make no difference with this Government in carrying out what is just and right in the public interest.

It is just the same with reference to the other proposal to advance to the Government of British Columbia for internal matters a sum of $900,000 or thereabouts, being the amount upon which they are entitled to receive interest. A measure will be submitted to Parliament to carry out both projects but they have no connection whatever with the terms connected with the Pacific Railway further than I have indicated.

We expect every Province to concur in any reasonable modification of what may be rigidly due to them when the public weal seems to call for it; and the Dominion on the other hand will be open to considering anything that is essential for Provincial prosperity, even if the terms of Union should strictly require it. This is the principle upon which the Government have considered these two proposals, and this is the spirit in which we expect British Columbia to receive them. We frankly confess that we are unable to carry out the Terms of Union. All engineers pronounce it a physical impossibility; and under these circumstances, all that British Columbia could fairly complain of would be an indisposition on our part to carry out the terms as far as practicable. They have seen no such indisposition on the part of this Government, and they will see none on the part of this Parliament, and it would be mere madness for them to expect, or for us to pretend, that we were willing to do what everybody knows is a physical impossibility.

I have no doubt, Sir, that the House will agree to these propositions. In the discussion of this question in the newspapers within the last few days, although we might fairly expect newspapers in the interest of gentlemen opposite to discuss these resolutions more from a party than from a national point of view, I have seen no solid objection taken to any of the propositions submitted by the Government, and I am sure discussions for the last few months have been entirely in favour of the scheme foreshadowed by myself in January. In any case we have deliberately adopted this policy, which, when fully understood, as I think it is already pretty well understood, will be accepted by the people generally, and, I hope, by a very large proportion of the inhabitants of British Columbia. They are spoken of as most deeply interested in this road. No doubt they are. Their country is a large one and the population small, there being but a few thousand of them.

The advantage to them and to their Province of opening it up by railway communication is great, and I am not surprised that they should be extremely sensitive on the subject. But the terms provided for in the Act of Union were very objectionable to the members of the Parliament which agreed to them, three-fourths of whom I am safe to say, disapproved of them, but they were forced upon them by party exigencies, and softened down by resolutions which, if they had any meaning at all, meant that they were not intended to be carried out. We accept these obligations, however, as binding upon us, so far as it is in our power to carry them out, and consequently we present this our scheme. It being impossible to implement our bargain to the full extent, we propose a means of access to British Columbia by the people east of the Rocky Mountains, and similar advantages to those on the west for reaching the older portions of the Dominion, by connecting our inland waters by means of railways.

It is quite possible, Sir, that I may, at a subsequent stage have to make some further explanations in regard to this matter, but in the meantime I leave the resolutions in the hands of the House, confident that they will coincide in the policy we propose, and confident that the resolutions will also commend themselves to the confidence and good judgment of this country, and not only of this country and this Parliament, but of the Imperial Parliament also, and of every reasonable man. (*Cheers.*) In conclusion, that this House will pass these resolutions I have no doubt whatever. (*Loud and prolonged cheers, amid which the hon. gentleman took his seat.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that he did not rise to continue the discussion at the present time, but to suggest to the hon. gentleman whether it might not shorten the time which would naturally be occupied in the discussion of so large a question if the House were now to pass the resolutions as they were pro forma, and discuss them when the motion was made for the second reading of the Bill. (*Hear, hear.*) If the proposal was agreeable he would not on the present occasion make the remarks which would naturally be expected from some gentleman on that side of the House upon the speech which had just been delivered.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that of course it was for hon. gentlemen opposite to decide on any course they pleased under the circumstances. He had taken occasion, in introducing the resolutions, to speak with considerable fullness, with the intention of introducing his Bill after the resolutions had been discussed and then passed. Still, if hon. gentlemen opposite desired to take the discussion at a later period it would suit him.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he was not prepared at this moment to follow the hon. gentleman, and he thought the discussion could be postponed with advantage.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the hon. member for Cumberland had stated that when a measure of this kind was brought down it was of course understood that the carrying of the resolutions meant the carrying of the measure itself. Of course hon. gentlemen need not say anything on the resolutions now. They could wait until the third reading if they pleased, but the hon. member for Cumberland knew that on any resolution like these the discussion ordinarily took place on the motion for going into Committee, and anything that was said after that was a mere matter of form.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he had always thought it a most wholesome provision of our legislative system that a measure like this should first be brought up in the form of resolutions, and a Bill then introduced founded upon them. The arrangement was one

which afforded opportunity for a complete consideration of any measure, and that opportunity was given before decisive action was taken by means of a discussion at an early period of the progress of the measure through the House, to be renewed, if necessary, at a later period. They were anxious, of course, to close the discussion on this question as early as they possibly could. In view of what he considered a very long debate on this measure, he had ventured to recommend the postponement of another important Government measure.

He was sure they should all be glad to hear what the hon. gentleman's views were with regard to this scheme now, and if he did this, the House would be better able to form their opinions on these views at a future day, when the hon. gentleman brought before them resolutions embodying these views. If hon. gentlemen opposite said they were willing to let these resolutions go pro forma the Government could not object, but of course they could not draw the badger.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said gentlemen on his side had decided not to enter on the discussion now.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that two sets of resolutions had been submitted to the House, the first containing $120,000, and the second $10,000 per mile as the subsidy to be given.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that this was owing to a clerical error.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he would remind the hon. gentleman that the House had only had these last resolutions in their hands within a few hours. He had learned this morning for the first time that there had been a change made in them involving the sum of $27,000,000. The opinions hon. members had formed with regard to the scheme must have been changed by this alteration.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he received his copy of the resolutions at midday on Saturday, and the hon. gentleman must have had them since that time in his box. They had been in the hands of hon. members for two days at any rate. He moved that the Speaker do now leave the chair.

The motion was carried and the House went into Committee, **Mr. FORBES** in the chair.

The resolutions were adopted, and the Committee rose and reported. The resolutions were then read a second time, and the **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** introduced a Bill founded upon them. The Bill was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for tomorrow.

* * *

BRITISH COLUMBIA GRAVING DOCK

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the House into Committee on the resolution respecting the graving dock at Esquimalt, in the Province of British Columbia.

The resolution was adopted in Committee, and the Committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE then introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, and the Bill was read a first time.

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the second reading of the Bill declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, within the meaning of the 92nd section of the British North America Act of 1867.—Carried.

* * *

TRINITY HOUSE HARBOUR BOARD, MONTREAL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the second reading of an Act to amend the Act respecting Trinity House and the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL condemned the Government for a tendency to centralize power in the Government, which he stigmatized as a species of despotism. (*Hear, hear.*) He objected also to the Mayor ex officio representing the city on the Harbour Board, which he contended, should be by popular election. He asked the Premier to give the reasons for the changes in the bill.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government had changed over two hundred things which the late Government did, and that it was the business of the present Government to reverse a good many of the decisions of the late Government. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) The Government were about expending a million and a half dollars on the Harbour of Montreal, and as the work was one which concerned the whole country and not one of merely local interest, the Government considered that they should have a majority on the Montreal Harbour Board.

The Bill proposed, therefore, to allow the Government five representatives on that Board, while the different great interests of Montreal were represented by four gentlemen. He had received a resolution from the Montreal Board of Trade expressing their approval of the arrangement proposed to be made.

Mr. RYAN said that the citizens of Montreal had been for years asking for the Act which the Government was now proposing to amend. He asserted that the Government were not expending a dollar of money on the Montreal Harbour. They were only guaranteeing the expenditure.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the hon. gentleman was mistaken. The Government were actually expending the money. His (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) words were, "We are finding the money for them."

Mr. RYAN contended that the responsibility of the present Government was not any greater in this case than that of 1873 was. He contended it was not the Government, but the port itself that paid the money, and that all the Government did was to guarantee that amount. He said he believed that if the citizens of Montreal were polled today, four-fifths, if not nine-tenths, of them would express their disapproval of this Bill.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that he had not the honour of representing Montreal in this House, but he believed he knew something of the public opinion of Montreal. He had sat for some time on the Harbour Board of that city, and he knew that the proposals of the Hon. the Premier in the Bill would be received with satisfaction by the people of Montreal. The people of the

whole Dominion were interested in the Harbour of Montreal, and therefore the Government, as representing the people of the Dominion but subject to Parliament, had a right to a share in the management of the affairs of that Harbour. He contended that the people of Montreal would prefer having as their representatives on the Harbour Board men like the Mayor, who held their positions on the Board ex officio, and not persons elected to serve as Commissioners for four years at a time.

He defended the course of the Government in the several changes, and concluded by a severe attack on the member who had just sat down, accusing him of having used unfair means a short time ago, in order to get himself returned as Harbour Commissioner.

Mr. RYAN made a spirited defence, and entirely denied the truth of any such charge, which, he said, was utterly unsupported by the least shadow of evidence.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER agreed with the hon. member for Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) who had stigmatized the bill as a retrograde motion from a Liberal point of view. The present Government grasped at further powers. They claimed, although they do not furnish but only guarantee the money, that they should assume the control of the majority of the Board. Such a change was entirely adverse to public sentiment in Montreal, the centre of the commercial enterprise of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had power to do the business even without the Harbour Commissioners. The Government, being responsible for the money expended, had a perfect right to appoint a majority of the Board. This was a point admitted by even the Board of Trade itself. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie), having found the view of Montreal adverse to the representation of the hon. member for Montreal West, had altered his bill to the form in which it originally appeared.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) said that he certainly understood that the views of Montreal were in accord with what he had communicated to the Premier, viz., that a direct election for members of the Board of Trade and Corn Exchange on the Harbour Board would be the best course to pursue. He maintained that the deepening of the channel and harbour improvements were not local works, but works of a public character, and therefore there should be a majority of the members appointed on the Board by the Government.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL censured the Government for resorting to a point of order to shut off discussion on this question. He defended the course of the late Government in favouring the Harbour Board. The hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) had said that this was not a bill tending in a democratic direction. He (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) was not a democrat, but he held that the Board of Harbour Commissioners expended not only the money of the Government, but of the people at large, who had an interest in the matter, and, therefore, they had a right to have a greater representation than the Government. He denied that Mr. Ryan was an improper man to remain as a Government Harbour Commissioner. He denounced the Government action as of a despotic character, they being not nearly as competent to nominate Commissioners as the merchants and ship owners for themselves.

The course pursued by the late Harbour Commissioners was one which could be pointed to with pride: they had not asked for money from the public treasury, but only wanted a guarantee upon which to raise the necessary money to be repaid out of their own fees and dues. The Government, however, had deemed it more judicious to give them the money. Hence it was with a bad grace that the Premier had spoken of giving the money to the Board.

He (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) here read the minutes of the Montreal Board of Trade, recommending that their representatives be elected as before, and remain for four years in office. While he was forced to concede the point of permitting the Government to have a majority on the Board, he thought that the trade organizations of the city should have the power of electing their representatives as they thought best. He contended that the Hon. John Young had himself recommended that the Board of Trade of Montreal have a majority on the Board last year. There had been no dissension in this House upon the point, but whence the revulsion of feeling which seemed now to have taken place? The change suggested was unjust, but knowing the decision as to the majority of the Board was inevitable, the Board of Trade had bowed to it, but had begged that in other respects they might be left alone.

He hoped that the Minister of Public Works, although he had passed the measure so far, would pause before he acted so contrary to the advice of the hon. member for Montreal West and others who so loyally supported him, and so contrary to the feelings of the House at its last session.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) denied that the Montreal harbour works were local, and hence the outside public at large should, through the Government, have the greatest representation upon the Harbour Board. In not making this provision last year, the hon. member for Northumberland (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) had failed in his duty.

The House then went into Committee and passed the bill, with an additional clause providing that at the instructions of the Chairman of the Harbour Commission, Collectors of Customs at any port in Canada should collect such fees and dues as should be levied on goods entered at their respective ports.

The Committee rose and reported the bill, and the amendment was concurred in.

* * *

SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee of Supply to consider the supplemental estimates.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER called attention to a number of features in these estimates, which were of a very novel character. In reference to the alleged deficit in revenue, the organ of the Government in Toronto, in support of this presumed deficit, had at last been obliged to fall back upon a statement made by Mr. White of Montreal at the Dominion Board of Trade that there was a deficit of $600,000. Mr. White had obtained this from the *Canada Gazette*, in which this account had been bungled. The reason, however, why

the Government had fallen back on Mr. White was because they had virtually given up the subject. He affirmed that the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright), before stating that Parliament should increase taxation, ought to have explained how this was, and where the $1,600,000 surplus of the preceding year was.

He reviewed at length his speech on the tariff, continuing his assertions as to the surplus on hand. There was, he continued, nothing new in these supplemental estimates. They were not statements of additional expenditure, but covered money expended by the Government some six months ago. It was simply a statement of how money had been, or would be, used, and did not touch the question of additional expenditure. In these estimates he found evidence of the exaggerations of the expenditure made by the Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright), such exaggerations as had never before been made. In a few months all the casuistry which had been used would be swept away, and it would be seen that the Finance Minister had in reality a considerable balance in hand.

He pointed out a number of items which were charged on this supplemental estimate, but belonged to years ago. Among them was an excessive charge of $33,695 for the Dominion forces in Manitoba, which had been already provided for in the Minister's nine-month statement. For the Mounted Police, Manitoba, $200,000 had been charged, whilst all that could possibly be required was $112,995, according even to his own evidence. Then there was $20,000 for the Hudson's Bay Company rent from 1870 to November 1st, 1873 of which only some $4,000 was due for the current year. Then he had brought in capital expenditure on the Intercolonial Railway of $427,000, which should never have gone down to current account. The item of the Montreal Post Office, $6,500, was a revote from last year which, too, should never have come here. There was dredging, $15,000, an item which should never have been applied for without coming to Parliament. The deficiency, $16,219, caused by the embezzlement of G.D. David at the Montreal Custom House, was not incurred last year but had ranged over a number of years.

There was, too, unforeseen expenses of $15,000 to cover a period of only two months, an item which could not be brought in, as this had been in anticipation. He referred to the item, repairs and working expenses of public railways, and the mixing up of capital and current accounts by which they had hidden a surplus of half a million which really existed. On the cost of surveys of the Dominion lands, $110,000, the hon. gentleman commented at length, contending that here too much ingenuity had been exercised in looking up items to swell the account. He went into an extended calculation to show that upon these supplemental estimates there were entered items amounting to $1,452,891 which did not belong to the year and should have not been charged. He also held that by the hon. gentleman's own figures there appeared at present, within two months of the end of the year, a sum on hand of $1,753,372, which added to $500,000 wrongly charged to current account for railways, left a surplus on the lst of May of $2,253,372.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that when the hon. gentleman presumed to ridicule the statements of a paper of the intelligence of *The Globe*, he should know a little more of what he was talking about than his speech had shown him to know. (*Hear, hear.*) The hon. gentleman must know that the estimates of a Government whose jurisdiction extended over such a vast territory as this one is, would be made up more accurately than the expenditure could be. On any day that the hon. gentleman might choose to take, he would find that the expenditures were always relatively below the receipts. The hon. gentleman asserted on the authority of a statement in the *Gazette* that there was a clear surplus of $1,753,372 on the 1st May of the current year. The hon. gentleman must know that a very large amount of interest fell due on the 1st of July. He (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) held that expenditures should be charged against the years in which they were paid. There were some charges of which they could not receive the accounts for some weeks, in some cases for months; and, therefore, they could not be laid on the table with the other accounts. He held that the hon. gentleman should take our liabilities into account in reckoning for a surplus. (*Hear, hear.*) If he did this, the surplus would not be one tittle of what would be necessary to cover the profligate and wicked expenditure the late Government entered into in order to keep themselves in power. The hon. gentleman had told them that supplementary estimates did not imply additional expenditure.

If they looked at the supplementary estimates they would see that no less than $1,517,000 of the total amount of those estimates was to be expended this year, and he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) would like to know on what grounds the hon. gentleman could say that the items making up that amount were not properly placed. If they took the two million and a half of ordinary estimates plus this million and a half in the supplementary estimates to be expended this year, plus $400,000 for Prince Edward Island, they would find that the total expenditure for the current year would be about the sum he had stated in his budget speech. No doubt the large payments in April would go a great way to reducing the deficit but he held that the hon. member for Cumberland could not expect that under the tariff there would be no deficit. Of course circumstances were not entirely ideal, and he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) hoped that there would be a large addition to the amount Mr. Tilley had estimated as the income for the year.

Mr. YOUNG said that he only desired to point out that the hon. gentleman had made three separate speeches to prove that there was a surplus, and on every one of these occasions had made the surplus a different amount. The first time he said that it would be about a million. He then said let us try it another way, and he brought out two million.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER, replying at considerable length, said that he assumed the Finance Minister's own figures on one of the occasions.

Mr. YOUNG said that he supposed that the hon. gentleman on that occasion said that he would take the Finance Minister's figures, and then took his own as he did tonight. (*Hear, hear.*) In his third he attempted to make the surplus $339,000. He (Mr. Young) left the hon. gentleman to reconcile these three statements before he asked the House to put any faith in the observations he had made with reference to the Finance Minister's statement.

The motion was then carried, and the House went into Committee.

On the item of $15,000 for unforeseen expenses,

Mr. HAGGART asked if the $3,000 paid to Riel was included in this sum. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the Government were not informed as to any such amount having been paid to Riel.

All the various items on the estimates were adopted, with but little discussion, and the Committee rose and reported.

After a brief personal discussion between Hon. Mr. Tupper and Hon. Mr. Holton,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he had years ago had the pleasure of being a humble follower of the hon. member from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton). He had been often twitted for not having brought down a budget, but he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) knew that he had not brought down a budget because he was requested by his colleagues not to do so, who, having only a small majority, preferred to resign.

The House adjourned at 1.40 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 13, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

A few petitions praying for a prohibitory liquor law were presented.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. ORTON presented the second report of the Select Committee on Agricultural Interests.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Railways.

* * *

ASCENSION DAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was usual to observe tomorrow (Ascension Day) as a holiday, and although the House was not bound to observe that holiday, it had been usual to observe it. He therefore moved that when the House adjourned, it should stand adjourned until Friday at three o'clock.

The motion was carried.

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SATURDAY SESSION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE also moved that when the House adjourned on Friday it should stand adjourned until three o'clock on Saturday.—Carried.

* * *

INCREASED RAILWAY TARIFF

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down a copy of the minute in Council authorizing the recent increase of the tariff upon the Windsor and Annapolis Railway; also all communications between that railway company and the Local Government of Nova Scotia and any individual relating thereto.

* * *

PRESQU'ILE POINT SETTLERS

Mr. BIGGAR asked whether it is the intention of the Government to recognize the rights acquired by the persons who had for many years past been in the occupation of the Government lands on Presqu'Ile Point, in the Township of Brighton, in the County of Northumberland and Province of Ontario, by granting them leases or patents upon their paying the Government the value of the land before the improvements.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the rights of the settlers, which the hon. gentleman referred to, were somewhat misty. All the Government could say at present was that close enquiry would be made into their position, and such action taken as would seem to be just and equitable towards these settlers.

* * *

THE ADJUTANT GENERALSHIP

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) asked whether it is the intention of the Government in amending, as proposed, the Militia law, to remove the restrictions imposed by that law which render ineligible for the appointment of Adjutant General any officer of the Canadian Militia unless he should have attained a certain rank in Her Majesty's service.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said the bill upon the subject would be brought down and the hon. gentleman would then see the changes proposed.

* * *

SUGGESTED FOG WHISTLE

Mr. FORBES asked whether the Government could afford to place in the Supplemental Estimates this session a sufficient sum for the establishment of a fog whistle at Coffin Island in Liverpool Bay. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the Government had the ability to place that sum in the Estimates for this purpose, but they had not the will to do so this session. They had already two fog whistles on that coast.

* * *

DISMISSAL OF SUPERINTENDENT OF CULLERS, SOREL

Mr. BABY asked why Mr. Robert-Henry Kittson, Deputy Superintendent of Cullers, had been dismissed, and whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint a successor to that office at Sorel.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said Mr. Belleau, Deputy Inspector at Sorel, had been removed to Montreal in consequence of Mr. Bell's resignation. Mr. Belleau had only $200 per annum, because he was Crown Lands Agent at Quebec at a salary of $1,200 a year. The salary of the Deputy at Montreal was sufficient, because there was an absolute necessity for having a Deputy there, while there was no necessity for one in Sorel. It was not proposed, at least for some time, to have another person appointed to fill his place, as the

department had under consideration the amendment of the law relating to the office of Supervisor of Cullers.

* * *

SUGGESTED PORT OF ENTRY AT SEAFORTH

Mr. FARROW asked whether it is the intention of the Government to make the village of Seaforth a port of entry, or sub-port of entry, and cause a bonded warehouse to be placed in the said village.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John, City and County) said it was not the intention of the Government to make Seaforth a port of entry, or a sub-port of entry.

* * *

DAMAGE BY ICE ON THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) asked whether it is the intention of the Government to adopt measures to prevent the recurrence of the high spring floods in the St. Lawrence between Quebec and Montreal, and to guard against the damage caused by the breakup of the ice in the spring.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government would be delighted to prevent the river from rising too high if they could, but they did not know of any measures they could take that would be successful, and they had no particular scheme in view which they could promise. He said he had not before noticed the latter portion of the question of the hon. member for Trois-Rivières. The Government had under consideration that question, and were now considering what they could do in that regard.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) said the question was not so ridiculous as it appeared to many hon. members to be. He explained that the packing of the ice made a species of dam, the result of which was the flooding of the surrounding country. In 1844 the town of Trois-Rivières was submerged, and in 1855 the same thing occurred, and no less than thirty or forty people were drowned, and probably property of the value of $1,000,000 was destroyed. Subsequently the country there had been again flooded, and he did not think $1,000,000 would cover the loss occasioned. The building of piers at a certain point in the Saint Lawrence River was regarded as a means of preventing these inundations, and he considered that the matter was one deserving of the attention of the Government.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the statement the hon. gentleman had made would receive the attention of the Government.

* * *

THE COPYRIGHT LAW

Mr. DYMOND said he was quite aware of the equivocal welcome members were likely to receive who brought forward a motion requiring verbal explanation at this late period of the session. The question to which he desired to call the attention of the House, however, was one that was not likely to cause any contention, as he had only to ask the present House of Commons to endorse the legislative action of the first Parliament of Canada.

The resolution which he intended to propose was identical with one which had been unanimously passed recently with the assent of the Government in the Upper House. It was "That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that His Excellency will be pleased to convey to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies the respectful expression of the anxiety of this House that a Bill entitled 'An Act to amend the Act respecting Copyrights,' passed in the session of 1872 and reserved on the 14th June in that year for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon, should not be allowed to lapse by the expiry of the two years' limitation specified in the 57th section of the British North America Act of 1867; and further to assure His Excellency that important interests in this Dominion are prejudiced by the absence of legislation such as this Bill contemplates".

The Bill referred to having been reserved on the 14 June, 1872, it was necessary, in order that it should not be void, that the Royal Assent should be obtained before the 14th June, 1874. That must be his excuse for bringing the subject before the House at this time as a matter of urgency.

The clauses of the Act which contained its gist or essence were these: The first clause read "Works of which the copyright has been granted and is subsisting in the United Kingdom, and copyright of which is not secured and subsisting in Canada under any Canadian or Provincial Act, or which has not been bona fide printed and published in Canada under the copyright subsisting there within one month from the time at which a copyright may have been secured in Canada, may be reprinted, published, and sold in Canada, but only on the conditions and under the restrictions hereinafter contained, provided always that the period of one month in this clause mentioned may be extended by the Minister of Agriculture on proof that the publisher has made satisfactory progress with the printing of the work." These restrictions and conditions, so far as they bore on the present discussion, were contained in the 5th clause:— "There shall be imposed, levied, and collected for the account and benefit of the owners of the British copyright therein on all reprints in Canada of works wherein or whereof the copyright is subsisting in the United Kingdom, an *ad valorem* duty of excise of 12 1/2 *per centum* on the highest wholesale value of such works, under and in accordance with such rules, and in such manner, and at such times as regards publication, as may be laid down by regulations to be made by the Governor in Council."

The Imperial Copyright Act of 1842 granted copyright to persons resident at the time of publication in Great Britain and all parts of the British Dominions. It extended, therefore, to Canada, but up to the present time no judicial decision had been given in any Court which questioned the right of that Act to run through the whole of the British Dominion, as indicated by its terms. The Act of 1842 also imposed pains and penalties on all persons who should introduce into any part of the British possessions any works which were copyrighted under its powers.

A very liberal construction had been given to the law of copyright by British Judges, for whereas in the United States no one who was not a citizen could obtain copyright protection, any person, from whatever part of the world he might come, by residing in England at the time of the production of the work could obtain a copyright throughout the whole of the British Empire. Previous to the year 1847, notwithstanding the Act of 1842, owing to our geographical position a large number of American reprints of English works found their way into Canada. Of course they were sold at the peril of the vendors, but at the same time, seeing that we had at that period hardly any book trade or literature of our own, there was an obvious reason for encouraging the sale of current literature, which was published on much lower terms in the United States than in Great Britain.

Accordingly, in 1847, an Act was passed which practically admitted American reprints into Canada on payment of a customs duty of 12 1/2 per cent *ad valorem*. He believed that Hon. Sir Francis Hincks was the Minister mainly instrumental in obtaining the passage of the Canadian Act which was necessary to give effect to this Imperial legislation.

He understood that at that period an attempt was made to induce Hon. Sir Francis Hincks, as a member of the Government by whom the Act was passed, to place Canadian publishers on the same footing as their foreign rivals, but in consequence of the book trade in Canada being at the time insignificant in extent, Hon. Sir Francis Hincks declined to accede to the request. He was bound to say, in justice to that hon. gentleman, that by his exertions to bring the matter before the British Government and people during the last few years he had done much to redeem what they now saw to have been a mistake.

By the Confederation Act of 1867 the power to grant copyrights was given to the Canadian Parliament. It was a moot question, never yet having been decided by a court of law, whether that Act overrode or superseded the Imperial Statute of 1842. It was singular that we had legislated in our exclusive interest with respect to patents of invention and discovery under the same section of the Confederation Act which gave us power to legislate with respect to copyright. It remained to be explained how it had come to pass there was exclusive jurisdiction in the one case, and only jurisdiction subject to the superior authority of Imperial legislation in the other. But few Canadian authors had taken advantage of the Canadian Copyright Act of 1868, although he believed that some publishers had been printing here to a limited extent the works of British authors by agreement with those authors.

Practically, however, we were flooded at the present time by American reprints of British authors, the publication of which might be piratical, or by agreement with the original producer, while our publishers were prevented from reprinting these works in Canada on the same terms as the publishers of Boston or New York. The remarks which he had made applied, of course, more to current literature than to standard works. A practice had grown up in the United Stated of the leading publishers competing for advance sheets in the English market, so that while occasionally an English author found his work reproduced without compensation to himself, in very many instances the author, or those who had the copyright, were paid for the right to reprint. These arrangements, coupled with the fact that the Canadian sale was small in comparison with that in the United States, had probably prevented the English author from coming to terms with Canadian publishers.

He would mention the results of the experience of one gentleman who was well known not only as an enterprising publisher, but as one of the most loyal and patriotic of Canadians. He referred to Mr. John Lovell, of Montreal. (*Cheers*.) Mr. Lovell had been in business since 1835, and during the whole of that period had been desirous of giving Canada a cheap current literature of her own, or at any rate of her own production. A few years ago Mr. Charles Reade's work *Foul Play* was published by an American firm. It did not enter Canada as an English reprint, but as an American copyright work. To test the state of the law, Mr. Lovell printed and published about 3,000 copies of that work at 25 cents, the American edition being sold in Canada at 75 cents. This left an admirable profit both for himself and the retail dealer.

He was, however, threatened by Mr. Reade with an action at law, and although the action was never tried, he thought it better to place the profits to the credit of those who might be declared legally entitled to them, and there the money remained to this day.

Mr. Lovell desired to publish another work of Mr. Reade's, *Put Yourself in His Place*, but on applying to Sheldon & Co. of New York for permission to publish it in Canada, he was told that he might do so for the trifling sum of twenty thousand dollars. This was not the only case in which the disadvantages of the present law had been shown. Mr. Lovell, however, was desirous of rendering his best assistance as a well-known Canadian publisher to induce the English publishers, who were our chief opponents in this matter, to withdraw any opposition which they might be disposed to offer to the Act of 1872, now awaiting the Royal Assent. He went to England and had an interview with Mr. Longman and a number of other English firms. He reminded Mr. Longman that he had offered to pay him 109 pounds for the privilege of publishing Colenso's *Elements of Algebra* in Canada, but Mr. Longman adhered to the determination that none of his copyright works should be published, as he said, by a colonist, and ended by the exclamation, "Thank God, we have got the power and we intend to keep it."

We had to see whether we had not power and a cause so just to lay before the Imperial authorities as to break down Mr. Longman's resolution. Mr. Lovell, disheartened at the discouragement he had received for so many years, determined to circumvent the obstacles in another way. He established a printing office at Rouses Point, set up his types in Montreal, took them to Rouses Point, printed his sheets there, and sent them into Canada, paying the 12 1/2 per cent *ad valorem* Customs duty. The American publishers, however, offered him so large an amount of business that he found he could more profitably employ his hands imprinting American reprints of English works at Rouses Point than carry out his original intention of printing for the Canadian market. He would be able to turn out something like one book a day, and had now from a Boston firm one order amounting to some $40,000. In the course of a few

months he would employ five hundred hands, who would otherwise have been employed on Canadian soil, but would now be engaged on American territory, and he supposed in time would drift into the position of citizens of the United States.

The Act of 1847, giving the English author the right to a 12 1/2 per cent Customs duty, to be collected on the frontier, had practically been a dead letter. There was an amount of routine necessary which enabled the American publisher to obtain an advantage over the Canadian publishers, and to anticipate the action of the Customs authorities. There was a great difficulty in collecting this.

That was the case with Mr. Disraeli's novel *Lothair*. A direct application had been made to the Customs Department to collect the 12 1/2 per cent on this work as reprinted in the States, but the officials had received no instructions, and the edition was circulated in Canada before any action could be taken. There were practical difficulties, too, in the way of collecting the duty, as book parcels were often of a very miscellaneous character, and amongst a large number of other works were perhaps only a few dozen of reprints, and it was said that in some parts parcels were never opened to ascertain if they were subject to the author's copyright duty. The whole sum collected in 1872-1873 under this head amounts to a trifle over $400. There was no intention, in the legislation proposed, to interfere with any special arrangements that might be made between the publishers of Canada and copyright owners in Great Britain. The law would only take effect in cases where such arrangements had failed to be made, or had been refused.

He had received a communication from a large publishing firm in Toronto, Hunter, Rose & Co., who, he was bound in fairness to mention, were somewhat opposed to the views he had advocated. They stated that for the last three years they had been publishing a number of works by arrangement with English authors, including the late Lord Lytton, the present Lord Lytton, Mr. Charles Reade, Mr. George Macdonald, Mr. F.W. Robertson, Mr. Wilkie Collins, Mrs. Oliphant and others. There arrangements, however, appeared to have been of comparatively recent origin—during the time in fact that the Hon. Senator Ryan, Hon. Sir Francis Hincks, and other persons had pressed upon the Government of Canada, and through them upon the Imperial Government, the importance of legislation in the sense of the Bill now advocated.

It was worth remarking, too, that while some English authors opposed this legislation, its most active supporter in Great Britain was Sir Charles Trevelyan, the executor of Lord Macaulay and trustee of that nobleman's copyrights, as disinterested an advocate therefore as could be found. He (Mr. Dymond) believed that if the Bill in question became law, they would find a large number of favourable arrangements entered into between English authors and Canadian publishers. It would induce the publishers here to obtain the earliest notices of English works likely to put to press or advance copies for publication in this country. Mr. Lovell had assured him that if such a law as this were sanctioned, not only would the Canadian publishers enter into the publication on a large scale of these works, but by a system of book canvassing there would be no village, farm, or store throughout the Dominion that would not be sought by the book agents.

As an instance of the want of legal protection for British authors under the present law, he mentioned that Todhunter's *Treatise on Algebra* had been published in Canada by someone who had substituted dollars and cents for pounds, shillings, and pence, and placed another name than the original author's on the title page. There would be no inducement to this species of piracy if a fair and equitable system of reprinting under legal agreements existed between the authors in England and the publishers of Canada.

After a careful investigation of this subject, and after having been, long before he had the honour of a seat in that House, in communication with Canadian publishers on this subject, he (Mr. Dymond) believed that if this right were given to them they would be able to supply not only the Canadian but also the American market. All the expenses of production were far less in Montreal and Toronto than in Boston or New York, and he was told that very important results might accrue to the trade in this country if the legislation they sought were accorded to them. He repudiated any idea that because he had crossed the Atlantic he was less anxious than before to preserve the rights of his fellow countrymen at home and in bringing this subject before the House he had been actuated with the hope that some little asperities on the other side might be mothered, and that our good faith might not be any the more readily doubted because it was brought before the Parliament of Canada by one who had still about him some flavour of the old sod. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the phraseology of the proposed address was open to doubt as to the meaning of its terms.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the question was one of extreme difficulty. The Imperial Government had sent a Bill some months ago to see if it would meet the requirements of the case, but after consultation the Administration thought it advisable to reply that they did not think it would do so. It seemed to be very difficult to enact any measure which would suit both publishers and authors. He complimented the hon. member for York North on the able and lucid statement he had made of the position of the matter.

The motion was then carried.

* * *

MR. JUSTICE TASCHEREAU

Mr. PELLETIER moved for correspondence in relation to the appointment of Mr. Justice Taschereau as Judge of the Superior Court for the District of Kamouraska. He explained that Judge Taschereau had failed to comply with the provisions of the law requiring him to reside in the judicial district to which he was appointed, and the consequence was that the public were very greatly inconvenienced, many litigants being obliged to travel eighteen miles to Court. The attention of the late Government had been drawn to the subject, but some doubt seemed to exist as to their jurisdiction in the premises, and whether it was not the business of the Local Government to see to the matter. He hoped the question would be settled at the earliest possible moment, and

that Mr. Justice Taschereau would be compelled to comply with the requirements of the law.

Mr. POULIOT stated that Témiscouata was in the centre of Mr. Taschereau's district, and it was more for the public convenience that he should reside there than that he should comply with the strict letter of the law.

After a few words from Mr. Pelletier,

The motion was carried.

* * *

BILLS OF EXCHANGE

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) asked leave to withdraw his notice of motion for a Committee of the Whole to consider the resolution in reference to the Bill to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes.

Leave was given, and the motion withdrawn.

* * *

DOMINION AND PROVINCIAL NOTES

Mr. WILKES moved for a statement showing the amount of Dominion and Provincial notes issued on lst January and lst July, in each year from 1867 to date, with the amount of such notes at each period held by the chartered banks as reserve, and the amount of species held by the Receiver General at each period; also a return of the circulation and paid-up capital of the chartered banks at each period; the estimated cost of the Dominion circulation in connection with the Receiver General's Department; together with an estimate of the net gain to the revenue from the Dominion note circulation.

He pointed out that the circulation of the United States was $750,000,000 while that in this country was $40,000,000. In the United States the amount equalled $20 of circulating medium per head, or as it was stated, an actual circulation of $10.50 per head. Of the $40,000,000 in circulation in this country, $28,000,000 was Government circulation, and $12,000,000 bank circulation, $9,000,000 of which was held in reserve in the banks. The circulating medium was $11.50 per head, or an actual current circulation of $7 per head. This, in his estimation, was very small indeed as compared with the circulation of the United States, which was looked upon favourably by a large number of financiers there, as was shown by the Bill lately passed for its increase. He also contended that the disproportion was equally great in view of the relative extent of our trade and commerce. Notwithstanding the prediction of Hon. Sir Francis Hincks to the contrary, there was less than an average of 50 per cent of the paid-up capital of the banks in circulation, and without committing himself to any opinion on the subject, he submitted that it was a proper question for the Government and the Legislature to consider whether some remedy could not be devised whereby a larger circulation might be secured.

The motion carried.

* * *

THE MILITIA

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) moved for a statement of all sums of money expended in 1870-1871 and 1872-1873 for the Militia service, including the Mounted Police, either for the payment of men, for the expenses of attending the camps, or for clothing, ammunition, drill, sheds or other incidental and ordinary expenses of the Department in Ottawa. He stated that one-tenth part of the revenue went to the maintenance of the Militia service when there was no danger of any disturbance.

Next session he would be prepared to call the attention of the House to the whole question of standing armies, and to the question of keeping up a standing army as against making an army when the necessity for one arose. He spoke of the fact of most of the nations of the world having come to believe that arrangements might be made with other nations for arbitration in international matters as well as in private differences, and regarded the abolition of the custom of duelling as an advance in public opinion. A further advance had yet to be made before war would be done away with. He said the country must regard the expenditure of one-tenth of our revenue on the militia as a manifest absurdity.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said the hon. gentleman could obtain all the information he asked for himself without putting the Department to the trouble of preparing the statement. He was not of opinion that the time had yet come for the disbanding of armies, and was assured that until the arrival of the Millennium military organizations would have to be maintained. With regard to the expenditure of the income of the country in the maintenance of Militia, he said they were reducing the force, and would necessarily reduce the expenditure. He pointed out that, while they were extending this Dominion, they, as a nation, would have to keep up an organization of this kind. He could bring down the statement for 1873-1874, but the other information could be got from the public accounts.

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM said he had no objection to the hon. gentleman obtaining any information he might deem necessary relative to this expenditure, nor was he going into a discussion on the militia question generally as this was not the proper time to do so. But he rose to protest against the statement of the mover of this resolution, who said that the volunteer was demoralized by the drill, that it unfitted him for the active duties of life afterwards. He characterized the statement as unjust to a large body of our most loyal people, who devoted their time and means to a necessary preparation for the defence of the country; and he expressed his conviction that where the irregularities complained of existed, the fault could be traced to want of proper discipline on the part of the officers. He also denied that officers were fully paid, as it was well known the Lt.-Colonel and the subaltern received the same pittance of one or two dollars per day. The hon. gentleman might indulge in his own opinion as to peace societies, but he should not misrepresent the volunteers of the country.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) defended the maintenance of the Militia organization.

The motion carried.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER read a message from the Senate, stating that they would permit the Hon. Mr. Letellier de St-Just to attend the Public Accounts Committee.

* * *

ARBITRARY DISMISSALS, KINGSTON BATTERY

Mr. BOWELL moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government or any member of it, or any Government official, and Dr. Orlando Sampson Strange relative to the removal of the latter from the position of surgeon of A Battery at Kingston, and all Orders in Council or other papers showing the causes for such removal. He stated that this gentleman had been removed from his position as surgeon of A Battery at Kingston, and he desired to know for what reasons he was removed. It was desirable that officers holding this position should know if, by accepting such positions, they were to be deprived of the rights of freemen.

He stated that an officer in the Guards held a position in the House of Commons in England, and, this being so, an officer in this country should be allowed to exercise his franchise. He did not say this was the reason for which Dr. Strange had been dismissed, but it was reported that this was the case. In England every soldier who had the legal property qualification could vote, but in Canada they appeared to be unwisely depriving military men of this right. No sooner was the election over than the gentleman in question was removed from the position he held.

The present Premier last year strongly denounced the interference of Government officials in elections, and put on record in reference to the Welland Canal the following resolution: "That it is highly criminal in any Minister or Ministers, or other servants of the Crown, directly or indirectly, to use the power of office in the election of representatives to serve in Parliament, and that such influence should be at all times resisted by the House, as aimed at its dignity, honour, and independence".

Yet the hon. gentleman no sooner obtained the height of his ambition as leader of the Government than those with whom he was connected violated the principle advocated in Opposition. The Government paper in Kingston had said that unless Dr. Strange voted for the Government candidate he would be dismissed. He was informed that the Hon. Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had said that, if he were Postmaster General, he would see whether Post Office officials dared to vote for the Opposition candidate.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT denied that he had ever made such a statement.

Mr. BOWELL said he had good reason to rely upon the authority from which he obtained the information, and, if he were given a committee, he had no doubt that he could prove the veracity of his assertion.

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

AFTER RECESS

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said before the orders of the day were called he desired to refer to a paragraph which had appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* that afternoon, and to state the facts accurately. The paragraph spoke of an accident which occurred to himself, and stated that it was in the presence of the hon. member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) and the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie). Now neither of these hon. gentlemen were in the House. With regard to the hon. member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake), since he had reason to know who it was who threw the missile and was quite satisfied that it was purely an accident, he was sincerely glad that the hon. gentleman did not tell him.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he was gratified to hear the hon. gentleman refer to that painful accident in the graceful manner he had. He regretted the practice of hon. gentlemen resolving themselves into a company of boys and throwing blue books and paper pellets at each other. There could be no doubt that the hon. member for Cumberland suffered very serious personal injury. The practice he had referred to was one fraught with danger to the persons of hon. members, and it was unworthy of the dignity of members of Parliament. He hoped they had now seen the last of it.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he did not know what was stated in the paper referred to; but he could only say that when the hon. member for Cumberland applied to him to know who it was who threw the book, he told him he did not know. That was the only answer he could give, as he was not aware who threw the book.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not aware that anything of the kind had happened, having left the House before the occurrence.

Mr. PICKARD said he thought the practice was an unparliamentary one. He had received a crack on the side of the head the other night himself. (*Laughter.*)

The matter was then dropped.

* * *

BILLS PASSED

The following bills were read a third time and passed:

To incorporate the Provincial Steamship Company—**Mr. DOMVILLE**.

Respecting the Federal Bank of Canada—**Mr. KIRKPATRICK**.

To change the name of the Victoria Bank of Canada to that of the Manufacturers' Bank of Canada.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To amend an Act respecting the Bank of Nova Scotia—**Mr. JONES (Halifax)**.

To amend the Act passed in the thirtieth year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "an Act to amend and explain the Act to amend the charter of the Ontario Bank"—**Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)**.

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JUDGE BOSSÉ

Hon. Mr. DORION presented the correspondence in connection with Judge Bossé.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

The following bills were read a second time:—

To incorporate the Saint John Bridge and Railway Company—**Mr. PICKARD**.

To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada—**Mr. MacLENNAN**.

To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada—**Mr. MacLENNAN**.

To enable the Great Western Railway Company to further extend and improve its connections and to authorize and confirm the issue of certain debenture stock—**Mr. MOSS**.

To incorporate the Royal Canadian Chemical Fire Engine Company—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To amend the Act incorporating the Quebec Frontier Railway Company—**Mr. SCRIVER**.

Respecting the issue of bonds by the St. Francis and Mégantic International Railway Company—**Mr. BROOKS**.

To incorporate the Stadacona Fire and Life Insurance Company—**Hon. Mr. CAUCHON**.

To amend the Act to incorporate the Imperial Bank—**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**.

To incorporate Le Crédit Foncier du Bas-Canada—**Hon. Mr. DORION**.

* * *

THIRD READINGS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**, the House went into Committee on the bill to amend Act 36 Vic., Cap. 48, entitled "An Act respecting Insurance Companies".

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

OBSTRUCTIONS TO NAVIGATION

Mr. MILLS moved the second reading of the bill for the removal of obstructions from navigable rivers. He explained the measure which was to provide for the removal and sale by auction of sunken lumber in navigable streams, about which complaint had been made. He defended himself against the attacks made upon him by the papers advocating the interest of the lumbermen, and said he proposed to strike out the clauses which were objectionable to these gentlemen. He inquired whether the clauses referred to included only sunken timber.

Mr. CURRIER objected to the bill, principally on the ground that complaint had been made that it would enable people to get possession of timber which bore the trademark of other persons, and give room for individuals to get hold of other people's timber, whether sunken or not.

Mr. MILLS said they referred only to sunken timber.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said the objectionable clauses seemed to have been struck out, but the proposed system of selling was rather vague.

Mr. COOK indicated that when the Bill went into Committee of the Whole he would propose such amendments as he thought necessary to protect the lumbering interests.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) hoped the hon. member for Bothwell would withdraw his bill. It wanted very great amendment.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE thought the second reading should be allowed so that the hon. member might introduce his amendments.

Mr. ROCHESTER took strong exception to the bill, as it would bear extremely hard on the lumbermen, whose lumber sometimes remained in the rivers for a considerable period of time.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL looked upon the bill as one likely to interfere with the lumber interest, and he knew of no reason why such great and radical changes should be made. He was assured these amendments would lead to professional treachery. He would oppose the bill because he considered it would deprive some individuals of rights which should not be interfered with.

Mr. CURRIER was in favour of the bill being read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) would oppose the bill on the ground that the amendment which Mr. Mills proposed to his bill had not been printed, and therefore the members were not in a position to take action on the bill. If they allowed the bill to pass this stage unamended, members would not be in a position to deal with the bill as they might think desirable.

Mr. APPLEBY pointed out that the original Bill had been abandoned, and he was opposed to the principle it laid down, believing that the Government should be responsible for a measure of this kind.

Mr. DAVIES supported the Bill, which he thought was not only unobjectionable but desirable in the interest of navigation.

Mr. COSTIGAN did not see that any necessity existed for the Bill, and was opposed to the principle it laid down.

Mr. PLUMB and **Mr. STEPHENSON** opposed the Bill.

Mr. COOK said he thought the Government ought to take the matter in hand.

Mr. NORRIS could not see anything wrong in the bill.

Mr. McCALLUM moved that the Bill be read a second time this day six months.

Mr. MILLS replied, pointing out that he had postponed the measure to this time in deference to the wishes of hon. gentlemen connected with the lumber interest.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) suggested that the Bill should be read a second time, and referred at once to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. MILLS agreed with the suggestion.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL differed from the member for Cardwell, as he objected altogether to the principle of the Bill.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) opposed the Bill.

Mr. CURRIER and **Mr. ROCHESTER** again spoke. During the speech of Mr. Rochester the House grew impatient, and the indications of dissatisfaction were such as to prevent the hon. gentleman from being heard. The House divided and the amendment was lost: yeas, 56; nays, 81.

YEAS

Messrs.

Abbott
Aylmer
Blackburn
Bowell
Brouse
Caron
Colby
Costigan
Currier
Dugas
Ferguson
Gaudet
Harper
Hurteau
McCallum
McDougall (Trois-Rivières)
McLeod
Mitchell
Monteith
Oakes
Ouimet
Plumb
Roscoe
Ryan
Thibaudeau
White (Hastings East)
Wilkes
Wood
Appleby
Baby
Blain
Brooks
Bunster
Coffin
Cook
Cunningham (New Westminster)
Donahue
Farrow
Ferris
Hagar
Harwood
Jones (Leeds South)
Macdonald (Cornwall)
MacLennan
McQuade
Moffatt
Montplaisir
Orton
Paterson
Rochester
Rouleau
Smith (Westmorland)
Tupper
White (Renfrew North)
Willson
Wright (Pontiac)–56

NAYS

Messrs.

Archibald
Barthe
Bain
Béchard
Bernier
Biggar
Borden
Bourassa
Burpee (St. John, City and County)
Cameron (Cardwell)
Casgrain
Cheval
Church
Delorme
Dorion
Fiset
Forbes
Fréchette
Geoffrion
Gillies
Gordon
Harvey
Holton
Jetté
Kerr
Kirk
Laird
Lantier
McDougall (Renfrew South)
Mackay (Cape Breton)
Mackenzie (Lambton)
Norris
Oliver
Pelletier
Richard
Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Victoria)
St-Jean
Scriver
Stephenson
Taschereau
Tremblay
Walker–81
Bertram
Blake
Borron
Bowman
Burpee (Sunbury)
Cartwright
Cauchon
Chisholm
Davies
De St-Georges
Dymond
Fleming
Fournier
Galbraith
Gill
Gillmor
Goudge
Higinbotham
Irving
Jones (Halifax)
Killam
Laflamme
Lajoie
Macdonald (Glengarry)
McGregor
McKay (Colchester)
Mills
O'Donohoe
Pâquet
Pozer
Ross (Durham East)
Ross (Prince Edward)
Rymal
Scatcherd
Smith (Peel)
Stirton
Thompson (Haldimand)
Trow

This bill was then read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

AMENDMENT OF THE LARCENY ACT

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act respecting larceny and other similar offenses.

Hon. Mr. DORION suggested that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) accepted the suggestion.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to a Committee composed of Hon. Messrs. Cameron (Cardwell) and Abbott and Messrs. Irving, Jetté, and McDougall (Trois-Rivières).

* * *

VAGRANT ACT

On the order for the second reading of the Bill to amend and explain the Act respecting vagrancy,

Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières) said that he saw that the Minister of Justice had also introduced a Bill with reference to this subject. He suggested that the hon. gentleman might add to his Bill the clauses of this one.

At the suggestion of **Hon. Mr. DORION** the order was discharged, and the Bill withdrawn.

* * *

SECOND READINGS

To amend the 29th section of Act 32-33 Vic., Cap. 29.

To amend the Act respecting procedure in criminal cases—**Mr. ROBILLARD**.

* * *

PROMISSORY NOTES

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes.—Carried.

* * *

RAILWAY ACT

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Railway Act of 1868. The object of the Bill was to compel railway companies who could not agree on the terms upon which they would carry the cars of other Companies to refer the matter to arbitration, one arbitrator appointed by each Company, and the third by a Judge. He desired to refer the Bill to the Railway Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no objection to the second reading on the understanding that the House was not pledged to the principle of the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.

* * *

ORDERS DISCHARGED

The following orders were discharged:—

Bill to amend Act 35 Vic., Cap. 17, relating to polling districts in the County of Inverness—**Mr. McDONNELL**.

Bill to amend Act 29 Vic., Cap. 17, of the late Province of Canada, to secure to wives and children the benefits of assurances on the lives of their husbands and parents.—**Mr. POZER**.

LIBEL

Mr. BROOKS, in moving the second reading of the Bill respecting the crime of libel, said he believed this House would consider it necessary to legislate upon this subject. He gave a history of the legislation with regard to the crime of libel, and said that it was not desired by this Bill to interfere with the legislation on this subject in any particular Province, but to make the law uniform throughout the Dominion.

The Bill was read a second time, and referred to a Special Committee.

* * *

SANDFORD FLEMING'S REPORT

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said before the Government notices of motion were called he desired to know when they might expect to have Mr. Fleming's report on the Pacific Railway brought down. He thought it was desirable that hon. members of the House should have an opportunity of perusing it at the earliest possible moment.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had done all he could to get Mr. Fleming to hurry the printers on with the work. He understood it was to be ready by Saturday last, but some difficulty, he understood, had arisen about some maps which it was desirable to incorporate in the report. On Monday, when he questioned Mr. Fleming about the report, he was told it would be ready by tomorrow morning or next day. That was all the information he could give on the matter.

* * *

ADVANCES TO PROVINCES

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that he would on Friday move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a certain resolution to authorize the Governor in Council to advance to any Province such sums as may be required for local improvements under certain conditions therein set forth.

* * *

QUEBEC TRINITY HOUSE

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that on Friday he would move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a certain resolution providing that the Corporation of the Trinity House be dissolved and its powers and duties transferred to the Quebec Harbour Commissioners.

* * *

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE informed the House that on Saturday precedence would be given to Government orders.

The House adjourned at 12.25 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 15, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Several petitions were presented, praying for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

* * *

REPORTS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the seventh report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. MILLS presented the fourth report of the Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. RYMAL presented the thirteenth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand), in the absence of the Chairman, presented the fourth report of the Printing Committee.

* * *

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr. SCATCHERD moved that a message be sent to the Senate asking that leave be granted to Senator A.W. McLelan to attend the Public Accounts Committee.—Carried.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

Hon. Mr. DORION—Relating to the electoral district of Algoma; also to amend the Act respecting the administration of justice in criminal matters in certain cases in the Province of Manitoba.

* * *

NORTHWEST POLICE FORCE COMMISSIONERS

Hon. Mr. DORION gave notice that tomorrow he would move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution respecting the sums to be paid annually to the Commissioners and other officers of the police force in the Northwest Territories.

Before the orders of the day were called,

Hon. Mr. TUPPER wished to know when Mr. Fleming's report would be laid before the House, and complained that the House was not in possession of the Pacific Railway question. He also complained that *The Globe* newspaper must have been in possession of that document before it could speak with such authority on the subject. He also thought the Premier quoted from it himself when making his speech.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE considered that Mr. Fleming was doing all he could to bring down the report. He had lost a large portion of his material by the fire in the Public Works Department, and he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was not aware that he had not exercised due diligence to have the work finished within the shortest possible time. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) did not have Mr. Fleming's report before him when making his speech, but simply a few sheets in galley proof. It was rather strange, however, that the hon. gentleman wanted information of this kind before he proceeded to discuss the question, for two years ago the hon. gentleman was prepared to discuss a much more formidable scheme without any information at all. (*Cheers.*)

* * *

THE NEW TARIFF

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the third reading of the Tariff Bill.

Mr. De ST-GEORGES moved that the Bill be not now read a third time, but be referred back to Committee of the Whole with instructions to strike out the seventh paragraph of the 12th clause relating to Canadian-grown tobacco.

Messrs. BÉCHARD and **GAUDET** (in French) supported the motion.

Mr. McGREGOR hoped the Government would be able to see their way to accept the amendment.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said a large portion of the revenue was derived from the source, and he was sorry to say the Government could not see their way to dispense with it.

Without any further discussion the members were called in, and the House divided, when the amendment was lost: yeas, 51; nays, 108.

YEAS

Messrs.

Baby	Barthe
Béchard	Bernier
Caron	Casgrain
Cheval	Cimon
De St-Georges	Donahue
Dugas	Farrow

Ferguson
Fréchette
Gill
Harper
Hurteau
Kirkpatrick
Langlois
McDonald (Cape Breton)
McDougall (Trois-Rivières)
Masson
Montplaisir
Orton
Pâquet
Pinsonneault
Pozer
Robillard
Rouleau
Taschereau
Tupper
Wright (Pontiac)–51

Fiset
Gaudet
Haggart
Harwood
Jones (Leeds South)
Lajoie
Lantier
Macdonald (Kingston)
McGregor
Monteith
Mousseau
Ouimet
Pelletier
Plumb
Richard
Robitaille
Ryan
Tremblay
White (Renfrew North)

NAYS

Messrs.

Appleby
Aylmer
Bertram
Blackburn
Blake
Borron
Bowman
Buell
Burpee (St. John, City & County)
Cameron (Ontario South)
Casey
Chisholm
Cockburn
Colby
Costigan
Cunningham (New Westminster)
Delorme
Dorion
Ferris
Flesher
Forbes
Galbraith
Gibson
Gordon
Hall
Higinbotham
Horton
Irving
Kerr
Kirk
Landerkin
Macdonald (Cornwall)
McDougall (Renfrew South)
McIsaac
McKay (Colchester)
MacKenzie (Montreal West)
McLeod
Mills
Oakes
Oliver
Perry
Power
Roscoe
Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Victoria)
St-Jean

Archibald
Bain
Biggar
Blain
Borden
Bowell
Brown
Burk
Burpee (Sunbury)
Cartwright
Cauchon
Church
Coffin
Cook
Cunningham (Marquette)
Davies
De Veber
Dymond
Fleming
Flynn
Fournier
Geoffrion
Gillmor
Goudge
Harvey
Holton
Huntington
Jones (Halifax)
Killam
Laflamme
McCallum
Macdonald (Glengarry)
McIntyre
Mackay (Cape Breton)
Mackenzie (Lambton)
MacLennan
Metcalfe
Norris
O'Donohoe
Paterson
Pickard
Ray
Ross (Durham East)
Ross (Prince Edward)
Rymal
Scatcherd
Scriver
Smith (Peel)
Smith (Westmorland)
Stirton
Thompson (Haldimand)
Walker
Wilkes
Wood

Sinclair
Smith (Selkirk)
Snider
Stuart
Trow
Wallace
Willson
Young–108

Mr. BABY then moved in amendment that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole, with instructions to so amend it as to exempt black and green tea and coffee from duty.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) said if he thought the poor people would get the benefit he would vote for the amendment but he found that the merchants and large importers always got the benefit of any reduction.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) supported the amendment.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER also supported the amendment, and held that the impost bore hard upon the poor men, and was not requisite in order to make the revenue meet the expenditure.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON said he was in favour of the taking off of duty from everything, but we required a revenue, and could not afford it. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said he did not believe the small tax of one penny halfpenny on black and two pence on green tea would lead to smuggling.

Mr. MONTEITH believed the tax on tea would give general dissatisfaction.

Mr. YOUNG said the general use of tea and coffee was an argument in favour of the imposition of a duty on them, because taxes ought to be imposed which would beat most evenly on the whole population.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) said he had the best reason to know that the majority of the large importing houses were quite satisfied with the proposed duty, and contended that it would not make one per cent of difference to the consumer.

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton) believed that any reduction on tea would not be of benefit to the consumer.

Mr. McCALLUM supported the amendment, as also did **Mr. FARROW** and **Mr. BUNSTER**. **Mr. GORDON** supported the third reading of the Bill.

The members were then called in, and the House divided.

The amendment was lost on the following division: yeas, 46; nays, 118.

YEAS

Messrs.

Abbott
Bowell
Cameron (Cardwell)
Cimon
Costigan

Baby
Bunster
Caron
Colby
Cunningham (New Westminster)

De St-Georges	Dugas
Farrow	Ferguson
Fiset	Flesher
Fréchette	Gaudet
Haggart	Harper
Harwood	Hurteau
Jones (Leeds South)	Kirkpatrick
McCallum	McDonald (Cape Breton)
Macdonald (Kingston)	McDougall (Trois-Rivières)
McQuade	Masson
Monteith	Montplaisir
Mousseau	Orton
Ouimet	Pinsonneault
Plumb	Pozer
Richard	Robitaille
Rouleau	Ryan
Tupper	White (Renfrew North)
Willson	Wright (Pontiac)–46

NAYS

Messrs

Appleby	Archibald
Aylmer	Bain
Barthe	Béchard
Bernier	Bertram
Biggar	Blackburn
Blain	Blake
Borden	Borron
Bowman	Brouse
Brown	Buell
Burk	Burpee (St. John - City & County)
Burpee (Sunbury)	Cameron (Ontario South)
Cartwright	Casey
Casgrain	Cauchon
Cheval	Chisholm
Church	Cockburn
Coffin	Cook
Cunningham (Marquette)	Davies
De Cosmos	Delorme
De Veber	Dorion
Dymond	Ferris
Fleming	Flynn
Forbes	Fournier
Galbraith	Geoffrion
Gibson	Gill
Gillmor	Gordon
Goudge	Hall
Harvey	Higinbotham
Holton	Horton
Huntington	Irving
Jones (Halifax)	Kerr
Killam	Kirk
Laird	Lajoie
Landerkin	Langlois
Lantier	Macdonald (Cornwall)
Macdonald (Glengarry)	McDougall (Renfrew South)
McGregor	McIntyre
McIsaac	Mackay (Cape Breton)
McKay (Colchester)	Mackenzie (Lambton)
MacKenzie (Montreal West)	MacLennan
McLeod	Metcalfe
Mills	Norris
Oakes	O'Donohoe
Oliver	Pâquet
Paterson	Pelletier
Perry	Pickard
Power	Ray
Robillard	Roscoe
Ross (Durham East)	Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Prince Edward)	Ross (Victoria)
Rymal	Scatcherd
Scriver	Sinclair
Smith (Peel)	Smith (Westmorland)
Snider	Stirton
St-Jean	Stuart
Taschereau	Thibaudeau
Thompson (Haldimand)	Tremblay
Trow	Walker
Wallace	Wilkes
Wood	Young–118

Mr. RYAN then moved, in amendment, that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back forthwith to Committee of the Whole with a view to substitute *ad valorem* for specific duties on tea, coffee and sugar.

Mr. MILLS submitted that the motion was out of order, on the ground that it imposed an increased taxation.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the motion only proposed to change the mode of taxation.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that even if so it was out of order. But the hon. gentleman argued that this would charge the burdens on certain classes of people which would involve obtaining a large amount from a certain class.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE contended that the hon. gentleman proposed to put a heavier tax upon one class of tea than another; therefore his motion was out of order.

After some discussion,

The SPEAKER ruled the motion out of order at this stage. It would have been competent for the hon. member to move it in Committee of Ways and Means, but not on the third reading.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER read a message from the Senate announcing the passage of several Bills through that House with and without amendment.

* * *

CONCURRENCE

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved concurrence in the resolutions reported from the Committee of Supply.

On the item of $6,500 for the Montreal Post Office,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this was to pay the balance of the contract for building the Custom House. It was printed "post office" by a clerical error.

On the item of $8,000 for the expenses of the Vienna Deputation,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in answer to Mr. Wood (Hamilton), stated that the amount allowed to each Commissioner was $5 per

day and 3 pounds sterling per week for ordinary expenses, in addition to travelling and other expenses.

The remaining items were concurred in without discussion.

* * *

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the House went into Committee on the Bill declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada within the meaning of section No. 92 of the British North America Act of 1867, **Mr. MILLS** in the chair.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in answer to Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, said that this line extended from one extremity of the Province of Ontario to the other. They had had two or three bridge Bills before this House in connection with this railway, and there had been some difficulty with the local authority. He had therefore thought it better that this House should have the entire legislation on this subject, and the directors had agreed to his proposal to that effect.

After some time spent in Committee, progress was reported.

It being six o'clock,the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

REPORT

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) presented the Postmaster General's report.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Bills were advanced a stage:—

For granting certain powers to the Richelieu River Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines.—**Mr. JODOIN**.

To incorporate the Neutral Link Railway Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.—**Mr. IRVING**.

To incorporate the Alliance Assurance Association of Canada.—**Mr. RYAN**.

To amend the Act incorporating the Bank of Manitoba.—**Mr. SMITH (Selkirk)**.

To extend the time limit for the paying in of subscription of stock in the Canada and New York Bridge and Tunnel Company (from the Senate).—**Mr. IRVING**.

To define and extend the powers of the Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society, and to authorize the shareholders to change the name of the said Society.—**Mr. MOSS**.

To incorporate the Great North West Railway Company.—**Mr. O'DONOHOE**.

To amend the charter of the Montreal Credit Company (from the Senate).—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

* * *

DELAY IN PRINTING

Hon. Mr. HOLTON called attention to the failure of the Printer to have not only Private but Public Bills put into the hands of members in time to let them pass their various stages. This session of the House was to be prorogued in the course of a week or so.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE suggested that assistance ought to be got from outside.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there was a very heavy press of work on just now, and he had spoken to the Law Clerk to see what could be done in the matter.

After some further discussion the matter dropped.

* * *

VOLUNTARY OATHS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. DORION**, the House went into Committee on the Bill for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

The Bill was adopted, reported, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

NORTHWEST POLICE

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the second reading of the Bill to amend an Act respecting the administration of justice, and for the establishment of a police force in the Northwest Territories. —Carried.

* * *

MILITARY COLLEGE

In moving the second reading of the Bill respecting the proposed Military College,

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) explained that the object of the Bill, as mentioned in its preamble and first clause, was to establish a military school of a higher and more varied order than any at present existing in the Dominion. This would be a new institution in Canada, combining, in accordance with the requirements of the country, a part of what was taught at West Point, in the United States, and in schools of a higher standard in England. In order to combine as much instruction as possible in the one school, it was proposed to include training relating to cavalry, artillery, engineering, and infantry—in short, all knowledge connected with military subjects, such as fortifications, engineering, and such other education as would be necessary to qualify officers for command and other duties connected with the profession of arms.

This new school was to be called a Military College, and to be at present established in one of the garrison cities of the Dominion. It would perhaps be desirable that this College should be at or near the city of Ottawa, so as to be more closely under the eye and supervision of Government, as well as open to the visitation of members of Parliament during the session; but for economic reasons this idea could not now be entertained, as the object was to combine as much usefulness as could be attained in one school without incurring large and unnecessary expenses.

The second clause had reference especially to the professors or teachers that would compose the staff of the College, and it was to be observed that the success of the whole establishment would to a great extent depend upon the wise selection of proper men for these appointments. The Military Superintendent or Commandant, as well as the others under him, must have a very complete knowledge of the various branches of military education to be taught in the institution. This clause provided that the salary of the Commandant should be $3,500, and the salaries of other professors not more than $3,000, and that the proper appointment for those situations would be made by the Governor in Council.

Section 3 provided that the government of the College should be vested in the Governor in Council, by whom its affairs should be administered and its regulations framed, such regulations, when published in the *Canada Gazette*, to have the force of law.

The 4th and 5th clauses referred to the examination for entry. A Board of Examiners would be appointed in the respective Military Districts by the Governor in Council. The examinations would be conducted according to rules laid down for their guidance, and the Boards would be ordered to assemble when occasions arose. Besides the regular examinations as to their education and other requirements, candidates would be medically examined as to their physical fitness. The 6th clause had reference to the duties of the examiners in sending in their returns of candidates found properly qualified with the reports of their meetings, so that the Governor in Council might have ample information respecting the examinations and the special recommendations that might be made on behalf of any candidate.

Section 7 regulated the number of cadets to be admitted. It was the intention to open the school with about 22 cadets. The collegiate term was established at four years, and when the school was in full working order the cadets would be divided into four classes, each class comprising the cadets entered at one of the annual admissions. Thus the 22 with which the school opens would form the lowest or fourth class. The second year these would go on to a more advanced grade of instruction called the third class, and another batch would be entered which might consist of as many as 36, and be instructed in the fourth class. The third year the cadets first admitted would go on to higher studies, and be classed as a second class. Those who entered next after then would become the third class and the fresh number of entries, not exceeding 36, would be instructed in the fourth class. The admission in the fourth and subsequent years would not exceed 24. Should the full number allowed by the law enter, the school would by the fifth year have reached 120.

It might not, however, prove expedient to admit the full number allowed and even if so, some who entered might afterwards prove unfitted for military studies, and leave the school, reducing the total number. The present intention was that the cadets should average 96, when the school got into full working order. Clause 8 explained that in the event of the failure of any military district to furnish any qualified candidates, the total number might be made up by selection from the qualified candidates of other districts.

It was provided in section 9 that when deemed requisite for special reasons, officers of the Active Militia holding first class certificates under section 33 of the Militia and Defence Act of 1868 might be admitted in addition to the number of regular cadets, but the number of officers so admitted must at no time exceed ten. Clause 10 prescribed the books and necessaries which the cadets would be required to furnish themselves, and the money allowances that would be granted to them to cover the expenses of living.

Clause 11 provided that every person entering the College for instruction would be required to sign an entry roll and become subject to military discipline in the same manner as enforced in Her Majesty's regular army. It was considered desirable that the school should be commenced with a fixed number of cadets on the basis established for future admissions in each year, as the cadets would thus be formed into classes according to the date of entry. The first 22 would form the first class, those who enter the second year, the second class, and so on until the maximum was reached and the school in full operation.

It was believed that the expense of such a school would not be large. The requisite accommodation would be obtained in public buildings already erected, and now under the control of the Militia Department. The cost of repairing and fitting them up for the school would be trifling, and as the staff would be limited, the estimate for this service would necessarily conform to actual requirements. The cost of maintenance as well as the education of the cadets must become a public charge, but the system adopted of placing the regular allowance to the credit of each cadet would make them feel the responsibility of supervision over the items of expenditure, and lead them to take a personal interest in the economical administration of their funds.

Taking the standard of payment allowed to each cadet at $300 per annum, which would include the cost of clothing, subsistence, and other expenses, the total amount required for maintaining the cadets themselves would be say $6,600 the first year, with a proportional increase thereafter according to the number of admissions. At the expiration of the full term of four years, should proper foresight have been exercised in the first selection of the cadets, a number would be immediately available as officers, and as instructors.

The question might now perhaps be suggested, what would become of these cadets after the completion of their education? He thought it might be safely asserted that should they fail to receive immediate military employment, the several industries in the Dominion would absorb their services in the advancement of civil pursuits. The scientific knowledge and the habits of discipline

which would be acquired at such a school would naturally fit them for various branches of civil employment, while they would be always ready to place themselves at the service of the Dominion should occasion arise.

It would be impossible to make every cadet a competent officer for the higher commands, as the temperament and natural abilities of some might, after all, not prove them fitted for military life; but even in that event the public would have the advantage of their industry in various civil pursuits, and their drill and training must tend to make them more generally useful even as civilians. How to obey and how to command could only be thoroughly learned by regular and constant practice, while the knowledge acquired in military schools must of necessity be to a large extent theoretical. The actual drill and discipline of troops could only be taught to a limited extent in such schools as it was contemplated to organize at present, but the training and education acquired there would be such as to render what must be learnt by practice comparatively easy.

Regimental training should follow, if possible, the education thus obtained, so as to make the system as perfect as possible. Besides the time spent at college, the cadets would be sent to camp with the regular militia, and thus acquire the rudiments of practical experience in that part of their duty. The military profession required a peculiar training added to special qualifications, to obtain success.

His own idea was that the proper organization for Canada would be a small but well-trained permanent army, but at this stage of our national existence it would be unwise to commence with a system that would prove very expensive, and one that, he hoped, would not be required in the Dominion for a long time to come. Professors of each branch of military education would require to be held responsible for the efficiency and uniformity of the system in his own department. The discipline of the college would be purely military, and the cadets would rise in the morning and retire at night at regular hours; they would be required to clean their own rooms, make their own beds, and clean their own arms and accoutrements.

In short the object of our Military College would be to obtain, under one central institution, the same results as those sought in England by the special Colleges of Sandhurst and Woolwich, and the Staff College, but modelled principally upon the school so long in successful operation at West Point, in the United States. In the latter institution many young men acquired scientific knowledge and habits, which caused them to be sought for important posts in every branch of civil life. Some obtained high positions in State Universities, some were connected with railroads and other industries, and very many had become highly distinguished in their various professions.

The discipline at West Point was very strict. A military officer having the rank of Colonel was appointed by the President of the United States as Superintendent of the Academy, who had supreme local control over the studies and discipline of the Institution. The average number of cadets for ten years up to 1861 was 78. Yearly examinations took place and the cadets were graded according to proficiency. Any who were pronounced deficient were removed from the academy after the first examination. Drunkenness among the cadets was almost unknown, and would entail immediate dismissal from the academy. The gentlemanly tone and feeling existing among the cadets was of a high character, and the course of education and training pursued was calculated to have such a beneficial tendency. (*Loud cheers.*)

The Bill was read a second time and the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider its provisions.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK suggested that the cadets should be selected by competitive examination.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER supported the same principle.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was only required that a cadet should have a knowledge of "the three R's", and to admit all those who would thus be eligible would be impossible. From the experience of the United States, he thought there would be no great pressure of candidates, owing to the rigorous discipline.

Mr. PLUMB contended that in the United States there was a system of examination before entrance.

Mr. WALKER had no doubt that where there were a number of candidates of equal merit, while the selection lay in the hands of the Governor in Council, that selection could not fail to be in some manner made on political grounds. He suggested adoption of some method of admission which could not be open to this objection. In other aspects he felt sure the country and the House could not fail to highly approve of the provisions of the Bill, providing as it did the essential principle of our national defence was the nucleus of a valuable class of trained officers.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL opposed the measure as tending to bring up our young men to habits of idleness. He altogether objected to the spending of large sums of money in order to enable a few men to play at soldiers.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the Government ought to indicate the site upon which this College was to be established.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER thought the statement already made by the Premier on this subject was sufficient.

Mr. PLUMB thought the College should be established at Niagara Falls. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. JONES (Leeds South) thought any reasonable expenditure for the Militia ought to be encouraged, and was quite satisfied to leave the selection of the site in the hands of the Government. He hoped no cadets would be appointed through political influence, or under the age of 16.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was impossible to be more explicit than the Government had already been in stating that the College would be located in some garrison town.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: Which are they?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the only places where garrisons could exist were Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, Kingston,

Toronto and London. The garrisons, of course, were confined to two or three. The nature of the ground and the quantity owned by the Government would also be taken into consideration. The Government did not intend to ask for any vote for the purpose of ground until the various places were examined. It would be impossible to say where the site would be more definitely. He had no objection to providing that the selection should be subject to the approval of Parliament. (*Hear, hear.*) He was also willing to provide that the selection by the Governor in Council should be according to order of merit. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. BROUSE thought military training ought to be given in all our schools.

Mr. FLESHER asked for explanations as to how the cadets were to be utilized in the departments and how they would obtain entrance into the force.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this matter was of some difficulty. We had a large amount of engineering to be done, and a great proportion of the staff would be drawn from the College. It was impossible to prevent some of the cadets from going into other services, though no doubt the majority of them would prefer the Canadian service. The present efficient officers could not be supplanted, but there were several so inefficient that the sooner they were supplanted the better. The contingency, however, was remote.

The Bill was passed through with some amendments, including the alterations of the ages from between 16 to 21 to be between 15 and 20.

On the suggestion of **Hon. Mr. BLAKE**, the proposed clause, reserving the selection of the site for the approval of Parliament, was postponed till the third reading.

The Bill was reported and the amendments concurred in.

* * *

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT brought down a message from His Excellency, signed by himself.

The SPEAKER read the message, which was as follows:—

"DUFFERIN,"

"The Governor General transmits supplementary estimates of sums required for the service of the Dominion for the year ending 20th June, 1875 and in accordance with the provisions of the British North America Act, 1867. He recommends these estimates to the House of Commons."

"Government House, Ottawa."

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved that His Excellency's message and the estimates therewith transmitted be referred to the Committee of Supply tomorrow.—Carried.

* * *

CARRIERS BY WATER

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill respecting Carriers by water passed through Committee, was read a third time, and passed.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Senate announcing that they had passed certain Bills.

* * *

NOVA SCOTIA SUBSIDY

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the Bill to declare the intentions of Act 36 Vic., Cap. 30 as regards the subsidy to be allowed to Nova Scotia was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time and passed.

* * *

SALARIES OF JUDGES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the Bill to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 31 for the re-adjustment of salaries of Judges was read a second time, and passed through Committee.

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OFFICERS OF COASTING SHIPS

On motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill respecting certificates to Masters and Mates of Inland and Coasting Ships was read a second time and passed through Committee.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS ACT

On motion of **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**, the Bill to amend the Dominion Land Act so far as the Province of Manitoba is concerned was read a second time and passed through Committee.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 2.35 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Saturday, May 16, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

A number of petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Mr. RYMAL presented the fourteenth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON, in the absence of **Hon. Mr. FOURNIER**, presented the fifth report of the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table the records of the late elections, and papers in connection with Port Stanley Harbour, and a return of the reports of the Commissioners to the Vienna Exhibition, et cetera.

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BILLS FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER reported several private bills which had been amended by the Senate, and the amendments were concurred in.

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ST. JOHN LUMBER EXCHANGE

Mr. De VEBER introduced a bill to incorporate the Lumber Exchange of the City of St. John, New Brunswick.

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A CANADIAN *HANSARD*

Mr. YOUNG moved that the order on the paper in reference to the most effective and cheapest mode of the reporting of debates be the first order on Monday.—Carried.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Hon. Mr. LAIRD introduced a bill to amend certain Acts relating to Indians, and to extend them to Manitoba and British Columbia. He stated that the principal object of the bill was to make the law with regard to supplying Indians with liquor more stringent.

QUEBEC HARBOUR

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Monday, to consider a resolution to provide for the payment of an annual indemnity out of the revenue of the Harbour of Quebec to the President of the Board of Commissioners of the said harbour, et cetera.—Carried.

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MONTREAL HARBOUR

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on Monday, to consider a resolution to provide for the payment of an annual indemnity out of the revenue of the Harbour of Montreal to the President of the Board of Commissioners of the said harbour, et cetera.—Carried.

* * *

THE MILITARY COLLEGE

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) moved the third reading of the bill to provide for the establishment of a Military College in one of the garrison towns of Canada.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asked if the Government had arrived at any decision as to the location of this College.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he intended to have made a statement with regard to this. They had considered the matter over carefully, and it was extremely difficult to name the place without an investigation of the localities. He might state that the site that would be chosen would be either Quebec or Kingston, and he hoped the House would be satisfied with this statement. It was necessary that they should make some investigation of the localities before coming to a decision.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON considered that the exact locality should be named, and the expenditure which would be entailed sanctioned by Parliament.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that, whatever their choice might be, the expenditure of money would be involved. He said that a vote had already been taken in the estimates.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the improvement of the existing structures would involve an expenditure of money, and he thought Parliament should be informed of such expenditure.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER deprecated the playing of fast and loose between Quebec and Kingston, and said that the Premier, in order to be consistent with his professions when in opposition, should take the House into his confidence, and inform them as to the place to be selected. He was assured that all the information the Government could obtain was already in their possession, and he

could not understand why the Government should hesitate in the matter.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) thought the suggestion came with very bad grace from the hon. member for Cumberland, seeing that he was a member of a Government which took such extraordinary powers in connection with the Pacific Railway. He thought that all the time necessary should be given to the Government to arrive at a decision in the matter.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE assured the hon. member for Cumberland that no representation had been made to the Government on the part of either Quebec or Kingston in the matter, other than those made on the floor of Parliament, and there was embarrassment as to the choice of a site. The only reason for not giving a decision was that the Government was not yet in possession of the necessary information. He thought after the indications given the House might very safely leave the matter in the hands of the Government.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS ACT

Hon. Mr. LAIRD then moved the third reading of the bill to amend the Dominion Lands Act.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) complained that his remarks as to the manner in which all settlers were prohibited from cutting wood had not been answered by the Minister of the Interior. He read a letter from Manitoba setting forth the disabilities of the settlers, and the exceptional legislation which was made in favour of new settlers. He moved in amendment to recommit the bill for the purpose of amending Clause 10, by adding the words "old settlers who have occupied lands free of timber prior to the admission of Manitoba in the Confederation, shall be allowed to purchase wood lots at one dollar per acre," and to strike out clauses 14 and 15 from the bill. With reference to clauses 14 and 15, he explained that they proposed to lock up large tracts of land for speculative purposes. He complained that there were too many such reservations already, and they were retarding the settlement of the Province.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD contended, in answer to Mr. Cunningham, that settlers had a perfect right to purchase wood lots in connection with their farms, whilst as for the clauses to which he had taken exception, he held that if companies would bring in settlers to the country, it was all the better for the country.

After remarks, **Mr. GORDON** supported the amendment.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) would like the old settlers to be specifically mentioned, as well as the immigrants, as eligible to purchase wood lands, and he hoped Ministers would consent to the amendment. While he granted that Companies might be very useful in bringing in immigrants, he did not think they should be granted any special privileges, and was of opinion that individuals who went there at their own expense should be dealt with in an equally liberal spirit. He hoped the Government would allow the Bill to go back to Committee, not for the purpose of making the entire change proposed by the hon. member for Marquette, but for amending it in the respects he mentioned.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD defended the provisions referred to.

Mr. MONTEITH supported the amendments.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) took the same course.

Mr. DAVIES said the settlement of the Northwest was a very heavy charge on the Dominion, and he believed the bill would expedite that object.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he was quite pleased to hear the plaudits of hon. gentlemen opposite, who were the authors of the law, to the proposed amendment.

In answer to Hon. Mr. Mackenzie,

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) said his amendment was one of the old laws.

After a few remarks from Messrs. **MILLS** and **SMITH (Selkirk)** and **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**,

The amendment was lost on a division, and the Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

SALARIES OF JUDGES

Hon. Mr. DORION, on the order for the third reading of the Bill to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 31, for the re-adjustment of the salaries of Judges and for other purposes, moved the re-committal of the Bill, in order to insert a clause giving the Government the power to grant retiring allowances to County Judges of twenty-five years' service.

Mr. DAVIES said he desired to introduce an amendment to the bill to provide for an allowance touching County Judges, and he, therefore, would move the bill back again into Committee to insert a clause providing for a retiring allowance to Judges of twenty-five years' service.

The House went into Committee and passed the amendment, after which the bill was read a third time and passed.

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EXTRADITION AMENDMENT BILL

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Extradition Act of 1873. He explained that the amendments proposed were some of them suggested by the Colonial Secretary.

The bill was read a second time and referred to Committee of the Whole, after which it was read a third time and passed.

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NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the House into Committee to consider a resolution respecting the salaries of the Commissioner and other officers of the police force in the Northwest. The resolution having been passed, the bill founded on it was introduced and read a first time.

The House went into Committee on the bill to amend the Act respecting the Administration of Justice and for the establishment of a Police Force in the Northwest Territories. The amendments were agreed to, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

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BILLS PASSED

The Bill to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 48, sec. 30, "An Act respecting Insurance Companies", was read a third time and passed.

The following bills went through Committee of the House, were read a third time, and passed.

To incorporate the Standard Marine Insurance Company of Canada —**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To incorporate the Columbus and Oregon Consolidated Silver Mining Company—**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

To authorize Mr. Joseph Meunier to build a toll bridge over the River L'Assomption, in the Province of Quebec—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 18, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Several petitions were presented in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law. Also a petition from the private stock holders in the Northern Railway, praying that no legislation might take place at present in reference to that Railway.

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REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the eighth report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the fifth report of the Joint Committee on Printing.

Mr. BROOKS presented the report of the Committee on the Libel Bill.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK presented the fifth report of the Committee on Private Bills.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) introduced a bill to amend Act 29 Vic., Cap. 57, of the statutes of the late Province of Canada, to prevent, so far as practicable, the recurrence of the serious loss, injury, and inconvenience to the trade and commerce of the St. Lawrence, in consequence of the stoppage of ice and the formation of an ice bridge within the limits of the harbour of Quebec.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) introduced a bill to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 47 respecting weights and measures.

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HURON AND TRENT VALLEY CANAL

Mr. HALL moved the House into Committee on the bill to incorporate the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated, in reply to Hon. Mr. Holton, that the Government would introduce a motion to transfer to this Company property belonging to the Dominion. There was an order on the notice paper to this effect.

Mr. BLAIN said the Government must see that this bill did not interfere with vested rights, a company having been already granted power to utilize the waters affected by this bill.

The bill, with amendments, passed Committee, and the third reading was fixed for tomorrow.

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SECOND READINGS

The following bills were read a second time:

To incorporate the Ottawa Loan and Investment Company. —**Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South)**.

To enable the Montreal Northern Colonization Railway Company to build a bridge over the Ottawa River.—**Hon. Mr. ABBOTT**.

To incorporate the Anglo-Canadian Mortgage and Investment Company (Limited).—**Hon. Mr. AYLMER**.

To authorize the Brockville and Ottawa Railway to issue preferential mortgage debentures, and for other purposes. —**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

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WINDSOR AND ANNAPOLIS RAILWAY

Mr. BORDEN asked whether the Dominion Government, or the Local Government of Nova Scotia, had the power of arranging with the Windsor and Annapolis Railway any alteration of the tariff in accordance with their Act of Incorporation, and the agreement under which the road was built.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the road was aided by the Local Government, and was clearly under their control, on account of being the lessees of the Windsor branch of the Nova Scotia Railway. It would appear that the Government of the Dominion did assume the duty of approving of a tariff. That, however, was a formal assent in writing which was given by the Local Government also. He presumed, therefore, it rested strictly with the Local Government.

* * *

RECIPROCITY NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. APPLEBY asked whether the Government would be able to communicate to Parliament before the close of the present session the results of the negotiations at Washington in reference to a reciprocity treaty between this country and the United States, or any information relating thereto.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE thought it was unlikely that they would. He could not say absolutely.

JUDGE BOSSÉ

Mr. TASCHEREAU asked whether the attention of the Government had been drawn to the following facts set forth in the documents laid before this House on the 13th instant in a return to an address of the 20th ult., that is to say, that the Hon. Judge Joseph-Noël Bossé, being the Judge appointed for the Districts of Beauce and Montmagny, and bound to reside in the village of Montmagny, has transmitted accounts for travelling expenses from the city of Quebec to the said village of Montmagny and for certain allowances at the latter place for their holding sittings of the Court of Queen's Bench at the several ordinary or special terms thereof, and has so illegally obtained from the Government of the Dominion the following sums, viz.: For the year 1863, $300; for the year 1869, $342; for the year 1870, $342; and for the year 1871, $312; also, if the Government were cognisant of these facts, what measures they proposed to adopt and when it was their intention to institute proceedings against the said Judge.

Hon. Mr. DORION said, in bringing down the reports upon the address moved for by the hon. member for Maskinongé, he found there had been some correspondence between the late Government and Judge Bossé as regarded some arrears. His (Hon. Mr. Dorion's) notice was brought to this matter when the address was asked for, since which he had not had time to look into the figures and see if they were correct. He would, however, give them his immediate attention, and continue the correspondence begun by his predecessors, in which Judge Bossé was asked to refund a sum of money that he had received apparently by mistake.

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ARBITRARY DISMISSALS

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) asked how many appointments made by the late Government on and after the 27th day of October last, the commissions having been signed by His Excellency, were cancelled by the present Government, and what are the names and residences of such dismissed officials.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said, as there was a return laid on the table of the House conveying that information he would refer the hon. gentleman to it, and he would find that it was a full answer to his question.

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STATUTES OF CANADA

Mr. BÉCHARD asked whether it was the intention of the Government to cause the statutes of Canada to be sent to stipendiary magistrates as they are sent to justices of the peace.

Hon. Mr. DORION said there was no doubt that the statutes would be sent to stipendiary magistrates as they were sent to justices of the peace.

* * *

A CANADIAN *HANSARD*

Mr. YOUNG, in moving the adoption of the report of the Select Committee on the reporting and publication of the debates of this House, said that the Committee had given this matter very serious consideration. They had considered the system in force in the United States, in Great Britain, in the Australian Colonies, and elsewhere; and they had placed before the House what they believed to be a practicable and at the same time inexpensive mode of publishing the debates.

He might say, in brief, that the proposal was that they should have one chief reporter, who should be an officer of the House, and who, aided by four assistants, should prepare a report which should be printed by a printing contractor who should lay the sheets before members, or rather in the post office, on the day after the delivery of the speeches at three o'clock, each member receiving six copies each day, and at the close of the session two copies of a bound volume to be then prepared. He would not go into this matter further, because the management would, if the report of the Committee were adopted, be in the hands of a Special Committee of this House, who would be able to introduce changes in the interests of the publication, and as experience might suggest.

The expense was, in his opinion, comparatively small, and he thought they had provided for as full a report of the proceedings of the House as would be found to be necessary. They had gone on the basis of the report of the Confederation Debates in 1864, and the calculation was for a volume of the size of the Confederation Debates, containing one thousand pages. They thought that would be quite as full a report of the debates as would be found necessary. This would give them, according to the estimate of the clerk of the Printing Committee, an average report of eleven columns of *The Globe* per day of a sixty days session. Of course some days the report would be much shorter, and at other times it would be longer. This session, he supposed, they would not have more than forty-five clear working days, but their calculation was based on a sixty-day session. This was quite as full a report, he thought, as would be necessary under ordinary circumstances.

The cost of printing had been estimated at a very high rate. The report, however, had been assailed, he understood, on the ground that the reporting must necessarily cost a great deal more than the amount of $5,000 named in the report. The practical men on the Committee were of opinion that five reporters would be enough, and the best example they could have of the correctness of the estimate was that last session, after what took place in the House on the subject, a proposal was submitted by one of the leading reporters in the gallery, which showed that they were prepared at that time to report all the proceedings in this House, and also the evidence before the Standing Committees of the House, for seven thousand dollars. He had here this proposal, and also the approval of it by the late Government, and he believed if they had remained in office they intended to propose that scheme to the House this session.

He thought it would be absurd to say that five reporters could not accomplish this feat, but if it should cost $1,000 more the amount

would be only $6,000, which he considered very small compared with the utility of the object they had in view. In 1867 this question was canvassed, a sub-Committee of the Printing Committee was appointed to consider it, the present Premier being a member of that sub-Committee, and their report showed that the report could be got for $7,801. Subsequently they had an offer from Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co. to do it for about $9,000, and last year, the report of the Secretary of State, on the proposal of one of the reporters in the gallery, to which he had alluded, showed that it could be done for between $9,500 and $9,800. He (Mr. Young) was of opinion that it could be done for an amount inside of $8,000, as the Committee had proposed.

The present reports were almost a burlesque of the proceedings in the House, and it must lower the dignity of this Parliament in the eyes of other countries, and worse still in the eyes of our own people, to read these reports.

He then referred to some absurd mistakes which occurred in the telegraphic report of a speech of the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), and also to other mistakes of a ludicrous character, which he had found in other speeches of members of the House. If these errors were only occasional, nothing could be said; but they knew they were not. They knew such errors were constant. They occurred in almost every report of the debates upon every subject. The reporters were not to blame. The mistakes occurred because of the system.

The reports had to be got up hurriedly and telegraphed considerable distances, and mistakes crept in from half a dozen different sources. The result was that the public generally were deceived with regard to the proceedings in this House.

In his opinion, the time had come when they should remedy this state of things. They should have a fair and impartial report of what took place in Parliament, and with that end in view, he moved the adoption of the report. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. KILLAM did not think more correct reports would be secured if the reporters were paid by the Government instead of by private individuals. Reporters of similar capacity would have to be employed. He was opposed to the principle, considering the great objection to be that it would encourage long speeches upon uninteresting subjects. He, therefore, moved in amendment that the report be not now received, but that in the opinion of this House the despatch of public business can be better secured by leaving the reporting of the debates to private enterprise.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON was of the opinion expressed by the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young). He never was reported correctly, and he thought the attempt should be made to establish something after the manner of the English *Hansard*. He did not think that it would tend to lengthen the debates, as members would be more likely then only to say what they intended to say, as they would not then have the opportunity of repudiating anything they had said, as it could be brought up at any time in witness against them. He instanced the case of the Confederation debates as an occasion when this kind of reporting had been very successful, and he thought it should be attempted here.

Mr. NORRIS supported the motion, saying that it would have the effect of making hon. members speak not at greater length, but more correctly and to the point.

Mr. McCALLUM opposed the motion on the ground of expense.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) contended that the reporting of this House would compare favourably with that of England. The fault of it was that the papers were inclined only to report certain individuals. He thought there was no reason to complain of the reporting down by the newspapers, which he thought would fairly compare with those in any other country. But newspapers always reported their own political friends more fully than the others, and therefore a *Hansard* was necessary. He considered a *Hansard* would be the best history of the country, and should support the motion. It did not appear to him, however, from the speech of the Chairman of the Committee, that any provision was made for the person to take charge of the staff and to curtail the reports.

Mr. YOUNG said the report of the Committee recommended the appointment of an efficient gentleman to act as editor and chief reporter, who would be an officer in the House and responsible for the accuracy and efficiency of the reports.

Mr. DAVIES said he never spoke at any great length, but he objected to being misreported. In the Province from which he came they had long had an official report, and had found it very useful. Though he was very anxious to see retrenchment practised, he thought the money would be well spent in a *Hansard* even if it reached to $20,000, which he did not believe it would.

Mr. WILKES said the English *Hansard* was a private enterprise, and was only indirectly aided by Parliament. He did not think the logical deduction from this was that the Government should itself publish a *Hansard*, but he would not object to aiding private individuals in the same way as in England. He contended that the Canadian reports were ahead of those of almost any other country, and he thought that the time had hardly come for the proposal now before the House.

He opposed the motion of the hon. member for Waterloo South, on the ground that it was not necessary, on account of the full reports appearing in the Toronto papers, and he argued that $8,000 would be quite insufficient to meet the expense.

Mr. MILLS was surprised at the line of argument followed by the hon. gentleman from Toronto Centre. With the single exception of the debate on the Address, there had been nothing like a full report of the proceedings of the present session in any of the newspapers. He complained that the reports of party newspapers were unfair to those who entertained opposite views from themselves, but however fair the reporters might endeavour to be, it was impossible that a report of proceedings taking place at midnight could be published three hundred miles away at three o'clock with anything like fullness and correctness. He contended

that Parliament ought to be independent of the newspaper press insofar as the promulgation of their debates was concerned.

They had been told that only the thick heads of the House had favoured the official publication of the debates. He denied this, and held that boys of nineteen and twenty at the newspaper desks had no right to be the judges of what ought to appear of a man's speech and what ought not. He concluded by heartily supporting the motion of the hon. member for Waterloo South.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) supported the amendment of the hon. member for Yarmouth (Mr. Killam) and considered the newspaper reports on the whole satisfactory. If this *Hansard* were published, the sessions of the House would take all summer.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) disapproved of the proposition now before the House. If the *Hansard* were to give a verbatim report, he would support the proposition. He held it to be a difficult thing to make correct summaries, and for any member to be responsible to the public for these condensed speeches.

After having given full consideration to the whole question, he was not prepared to give the motion of the hon. member for Waterloo South support. He contended that the reasons urged for the *Hansard* were not sufficient, and held that the votes and proceedings of the House were sufficient record of the action and views of hon. members. He was of opinion that an official report would tend to lengthen the speeches, and he failed to see how it would raise our credit as a country to have an official record of the utterances of our legislators. He saw no reason to fear the criticisms of the press, of which his hon. friend from Bothwell (Mr. Mills) had spoken.

He thought the sum proposed was quite inadequate for the work, and instanced the cost of similar work in the United States and in New Brunswick. He concluded by saying it was his intention to vote against the proposal of Mr. Young.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he thought that it was desirable that the leader of the Government should express his opinion on the subject.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had no hesitation in giving his opinion, but it was not an opinion which he desired to force upon the House. It was his wish that every member of the House should express his ideas on the subject freely, and it was for this reason that nothing had been said by any member of the Government. He had himself always been in favour of an official report of the proceedings of the House, and he had frequently taken such steps as he could, in his capacity as a member of the House, to that end. He had been a member of a Committee which had reported on the subject more than once, but whose suggestions had somehow never been carried out.

It was exceedingly desirable to have something like an authentic record of the proceedings of the House. Several other British Colonies had a good condensed report which he thought would be suitable for our purposes; a verbatim report would be quite impracticable. He thought that scheme should be tried one session, and if it were unsuccessful, then the House could go back to the voluntary system.

As far as the reporters for the papers were concerned, they had often improved his own speeches, and he had no doubt they also improved the speeches of other hon. members. An authentic record of proceedings, as he had already stated, was, in his opinion, requisite, and if private enterprise was not equal to the production of it, he thought the House should expend a small sum on it. These were the views of the Government, but they nevertheless desired to leave the matter to the free expression of the House. For his own part he would vote for the motion of his hon. friend from Waterloo South. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he would have preferred if the Government had taken up this question themselves, and dealt with it. There were minor details in this scheme of the Committee which he thought to alter to some extent, but he gave the scheme as a whole his hearty support. He was surprised at the hon. member for Middlesex West (Mr. Ross) taking the course he did, seeing that he was a member of the Committee which had laid this report before the House and he thought, seeing that the hon. gentleman believed so much in the power of recorded votes, he should have given expression to his faith by recording his vote against the report. (*Hear, hear.*)

He (Hon. Mr. Blake) believed that there should be full and fair discussion of all measures in Parliament previous to their passage, and only second to that in importance was the proposition that the people should have a fair opportunity of knowing what took place on the floor of the Legislature. Parliamentary Government was well said to be Government by discussion and members of Parliament who were the leaders of public opinion should have an opportunity of letting the public know their reasons for the course they thought fit to take. The present system could not be said to be satisfactory. It might have been more satisfactory in times past, when the Parliament of Canada sat in a large city where the daily papers had a very large circulation and could afford to publish very full reports.

At present the matter was in altogether a different position. The most important debates were prolonged debates and some of the most important speeches were delivered at a late hour of the night. The reports sent to the press had to be telegraphed, and those portions sent in the early part of the evening were as a rule more full in consequence. When a speech was delivered at a late hour, it was impossible that a telegraphic report could be sent which would convey any expression of the sense of it at all. He would himself desire that a fair view of the reasons and arguments made use of by members on both sides of the House should be laid before the constituencies, when they would have an opportunity of judging for themselves upon whose side the weight of reason was. No man could say that such reports were given by the newspapers, and indeed it was impossible to expect it. He did not think this was a satisfactory state of things.

Whatever they might suffer whose misfortune it was to take a more prominent part in the debates, he was sure the position of those who spoke less frequently was much more to be deplored.

The way in which members were treated who made but one speech or two during the whole season, and had specially prepared themselves for that occasion, was enough to rouse the House to the necessity of having an official report. All they read was Mr. So-and-So spoke, so that "from him that hath not was taken away even that which he hath."

There would, in his opinion, be very great objection to a verbatim report, and he thought it well that only a good summary was proposed. He did not believe that any hon. member would speak at greater length in order to have his remarks reported at greater length, as no one desired to put himself in the undesirable position of being considered a bore. It was of course always best to make speeches as short as possible, and as much to the point.

He earnestly hoped that the approval of the Government would carry some weight with those who were friends of the Government, and that the scheme would be carried by a decisive majority. It had been approved of in principle by the hon. gentleman who formerly led this House. It was approved by the gentleman who led it now. The publication of an authorized report of the proceedings of the House would, he believed, be found productive of a sound public opinion, and would be the foundation upon which would be laid the law and the policy of the country. He defended the position taken by his hon. friend from Bothwell (Mr. Mills) and trusted that the proposition of the hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Young) would be adopted.

The question having been put the amendment was declared lost on a division.

The original motion was then carried.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE called attention to the fact that tenders for printing were made without reference to this matter, and he thought it would be well for the Printing Committee to make arrangements with the Parliamentary Printer for having the work done in connection with the contract.

Mr. YOUNG said he would call the attention of the Committee to the matter.

The second report of the *Hansard* Committee with regard to reporting Committees was then adopted.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER announced that he had received a message from the Senate with a number of Bills.

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COMPULSORY PILOTAGE

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton) enquired whether it was the intention of the Government to amend subsections 3 and 5, or either of them, of section 57 of the Acts of 1873, respecting compulsory pilotage, so as to lessen the exemptions of subsection 3, and reduce the tonnage in No. 5.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland): It is not the intention of the Government to make any change in the law at the present session. If at the next session it is found that it works injuriously, the Government will then be prepared to meet the difficulty and to make the necessary changes.

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SUSPENSION OF RULES

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved the suspension of the rule for posting private bills for three days between their second and third readings. He said the effect of this would be to enable bills referred to Committee today to come before them tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he would not object to the motion, but he considered it would not very much accelerate matters.

After some discussion the motion was carried.

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THE FISHERIES

Mr. KIRKPATRICK moved for reports, et cetera, on the systems which prevail in Ontario and Quebec in relation to the fisheries et cetera. He said that his excuse for bringing this matter before the House must be the extent and importance of this source of the wealth of the Dominion, and the fact that the late Government had last year promised the present Premier, when he brought this matter before the House, that it would be taken into consideration. He (Mr. Kirkpatrick) wanted to see what action, if any, had been taken. They knew that in the different Provinces different laws prevailed with reference to the management of the fisheries. It was very important that it should be made known whether the Government intended to adopt for the inland waters the system of licensing or leasing the fisheries. In the Lower Provinces there was no licence fee charged, and if it were proposed to charge such a fee there, why was the discrimination made?

He wished to call the attention of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to a case of very great hardship under the system which prevailed on our inland waters. That the hon. gentleman had given certain men a right, upon the payment of a certain licence, to fish between Kingston and Brockville; but after this was done an order was suddenly issued from the Department prohibiting them or anybody else from fishing between those two places, and the reason given for this action was that some wealthy Americans had bought some islands in the St. Lawrence, and desired to go there and fish for amusement.

He was sure that when the attention of the Hon. Minister was called to these facts he would say that system of licensing bore very hard upon those poor men who gained their living by fishing. He believed that so zealous and indefatigable a gentleman as the late Minister must have done something in the matter. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said that he did not think it fitting for him to discuss the matter now with his hon. friend, but he would be prepared to do so when the papers came down. If there

was any case of hardship or injustice he would certainly be very happy to rectify it if the hon. gentleman would bring it under his notice. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said that when the report of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries was up last year and the present Hon. Premier called attention to the discrepancies between the different systems, he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell), not foreseeing the consequences of what had transpired during the previous year nor the future before the Government of the day, promised that before any more money was asked for for the Department of Marine and Fisheries he would submit a scheme to the House—not, however, a uniform scheme, for that could not be carried out without doing injustice to some sections.

He had no doubt that the present Minister of Marine and Fisheries, having had his attention called to the matter, and having shown on different occasions that he desired to carry out the policy which he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) had pursued when in office, would endeavour to prepare such a scheme as he (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) had referred to. The system which prevailed with reference to the inland waters could not be applied to the Atlantic and the streams flowing into it.

Mr. LANDERKIN objected to the passing of so many addresses, all involving expense, whom the information moved for could in many cases be got by applying to the Department, and when the information after it was brought down was seldom acted upon.

The motion was carried.

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PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING

Mr. STEPHENSON moved for the return of the money paid by the Government for Parliamentary or Departmental printing, to any person or persons other than the contractor for such printing, and orders for other public printing given since the 30th June, 1873, together with the date of such payments, and such orders for work, and the name of the party or parties to whom payments were made, and orders for any printing given.—Carried.

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BURNING OF THE *BAVARIAN*

Mr. KIRKPATRICK moved for copies of the instructions given to the Steamboat Inspectors, or any of them, concerning the destruction by fire of the steamboat *Bavarian* in November, 1873. He said that he had been requested to get these instructions by some persons interested in knowing what they were, because it was thought that it might be on account of neglect of duty on the part of officers under the gentlemen who held the investigation into the disaster that that disaster occurred.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that the object of the hon. gentleman's motion was an admirable one, but there was no possibility of getting the return down in time to be acted upon this session.

The motion was carried.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

REMOVAL OF DR. STRANGE

Mr. BOWELL moved for correspondence relative to the removal of Dr. Orlando Sampson Strange from the position of Surgeon of A Battery at Kingston. In doing so he said that he would not repeat what he had said on a former occasion with regard to the matter. He thought he could do no better than repeat the opinion the member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake) had expressed on a different occasion on the subject of undue Governmental interference in elections.

He accordingly proceeded to quote from a speech of that gentleman delivered in 1868, and said that if the reason why Dr. Strange was dismissed was that he voted against the Government candidate, let the Government get up and say so. If that were the reason he had no doubt that a large proportion of the best officers in the volunteer force in the country would throw their commission in the face of the Government.

He thought that, if there was any class who ought to be free from governmental influence, it was the class holding commissions in the Customs, militia volunteers, etc. It was a principle unheard of in England, and he read an extract from the *Court Journal*, showing that almost every one of the officers in the army holding a seat in the English House of Commons was a member, not of the Government, but of the Opposition.

If Dr. Strange had done anything wrong in his capacity as a surgeon of the forces, he should have been court-martialled; at any rate he should have received some reason for being dismissed.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that he was informed in the first place that Dr. Strange was never commissioned at all. (*Hear, hear.*) He was merely in the position of an ordinary surgeon receiving a daily rate of pay. To his (Hon. Mr. Cartwright's) knowledge Dr. Strange was never instructed that he should not vote for the hon. member for Kingston. His franchise was not interfered with in the slightest degree.

It was quite a different thing, however, for Dr. Strange to exert himself to the best of his ability to defeat the Government candidate, and as he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) was told, Dr. Strange did exceed in so doing the bounds of legitimate canvass. He did not think that hon. gentlemen opposite could approve of such conduct as this on the part of officers of the Government. He did not think that such conduct would be approved of in England. The right hon. member for Kingston it was known had only been returned by 36 majority, and he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had in his hand a list of names of 38 officials of the Government who had voted for that gentleman at the last election, and with whom, there was a pretty strong suspicion, undue influence had been used. If the Government had been inclined to deal harshly with officers for their conduct in the late election, he (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) thought they could find good ground for doing so. He had himself seen loads of

Government employees from the Penitentiary being taken down in Government sleighs to vote for the right hon. gentleman, but the hon. member for Hastings North had taken no notice of that in his speech.

The Government had no intention of influencing officials in their exercise of the franchise, and that had always been their opinion all through. He did not think that Government officials should take an active part in elections, and he had himself advised them not to do it, as it was perfectly well known that they could not do so without largely influencing those with whom they came in contact. He had always thought it unadvisable, and that some notice should be taken of it. He had a list of thirty-eight Government employees who voted for the hon. member for Kingston, and without whose vote it would have been utterly impossible for him to have been returned.

Mr. BOWELL: The hon. gentleman has not told us why Dr. Strange was removed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: He was not removed.

Hon. Mr. DORION: He had no office. Hear, hear.

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton), who was indistinctly heard, was understood to charge the Government with having dismissed officials wholesale in his own county for working against them in the late election. He attributed these dismissals solely to political reasons, and he believed their successors had been appointed also for political reasons.

Hon. Mr. DORION: Who are they?

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) would mention the case of Mr. Hamilton, who had been appointed Collector of Customs at North Sydney, who had been dismissed without any notice and without any reason.

Hon. Mr. DORION: When?

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) replied that he had been appointed on his recommendation last November, and he thought it extraordinary that he should have been dismissed without any reason whatever three weeks after that appointment. He would refer also to the late officer Bunn, who owed his dismissal to political reasons. There were several other minor appointments which he would not mention, but he took this opportunity of expressing his disapproval of such a proceeding, and, notwithstanding the denial of the Premier, that pressure had been brought to bear upon officials, he could assure them that in his county it was brought to bear. In justice to the Premier he would say he believed he knew nothing of it, but he could not say so with regard to some of his supporters behind that hon. gentleman. He referred to the Hon. Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross), and if he could deny it, he wished he would do so now.

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton) explained with regard to the dismissals complained of that they had been made, not because of any objection to their political principles, but because in some instances they were persons not at all fitted to perform their duties, besides being pretty well advanced in years, while those appointed to succeed them had been better acquainted with the duties of the office to which they had been appointed, and, the House must understand, by the local authorities. He particularly defended the dismissal of Mr. Hamilton from the office of Collector of Customs at the port of North Sydney, as he was utterly unqualified to fulfil the duties, while the gentleman appointed in his stead was well worthy of the position.

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) defended Mr. Hamilton as perfectly competent to perform his duties. He was one of the most respectable and intelligent of men, and would compare favourably with the hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House any day.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK thought they were wandering from the question. He held that Dr. Strange was an officer, and that he had been appointed to the volunteer force by the Governor General, and that he had been dismissed in the same way as if he had been guilty of a dereliction of duty, although simply for political reasons.

In reference to the assertion of the Hon. Minister of Finance that the officials at the Kingston Penitentiary had been driven down to the poll in a Government sleigh, he charged the hon. gentleman with a want of candour in not having told them that the Warden, Mr. Creighton, had refused to allow any canvassing within the prison walls, that he had refused to allow the officials to be interfered with during their hours of duty, and that on the morning of election he had called them before him, and without asking or even knowing how they were going to vote, told them that they were short-handed, and in order to save time they must be driven down if they wished to secure their franchise, in the government sleigh, which would bring them back immediately. He knew, however, that with regard to his own election, many of the officials had been threatened: if they voted for him, they must look out for the consequences.

He saw in the papers that the Minister of Finance had denied having interfered with the Post Office officials. He (Mr. Kirkpatrick) was glad of it, but he had heard an official in the Post Office Department state in the public marketplace that the Hon. Minister of Finance had told him that, if he were Postmaster General, he would turn any official out for voting against the Government.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT denied it.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK was glad of it, because it would show that this interference had not taken place. When the correspondence was brought down, however, it would show, he hoped, that Dr. Strange had not been summarily dismissed on account of his political proclivities.

Mr. RYAN then made some remarks with regard to the appointment and dismissal of Mr. Purcell, the Assistant Surveyor of the Port of Montreal. He contended that this dismissal was another instance of the injustice of the Government.

Mr. BOWELL, in reply to the speech of the hon. Minister of Finance, said that the hon. gentleman had not attempted to justify the course which had been pursued by his Government in regard to the dismissal of Dr. Strange. He had stated that he was not an

officer, and had never held a commission, but he could assure the hon. gentleman to the contrary.

He quoted from the *Canada Gazette* to show that Dr. Strange received an ordinary militia appointment, that appointment being gazetted, "A Battery School of Gunnery, Surgeon, Orlando Strange, lst Frontenac Cavalry", et cetera.

After proving his position, the speaker read a letter from Lieut.-Col. French, of the Regular Army, to Dr. Strange, in which he complimented him upon his extreme efficiency, and believed his dismissal was due to no lack of capacity on his part. He (Mr. Bowell) supposed, however, that the Government had determined that no reason should be given for what they had done.

Hon. Mr. DORION said Dr. Strange had no commission, but was paid from day to day for his attendance on that Battery. Other hon. gentlemen had referred to other causes. The member for Montreal Centre had spoken of the case of Mr. Purcell. What was the fact? What had been the action of the late Government? From the day the vote of want of confidence was moved, from the day it was known that they were doomed, and that the feeling of the House and the country was against them, from the 27th October to the 5th November, when they resigned under the compulsion of popular feeling, they appointed about a hundred persons, 83 of whose appointments the new Government had to cancel because they were made by a Government not possessing the confidence of the House or the country. (*Loud cheers.*)

If he was proud of anything in the course of his long political life, it was his having recorded his opinion in favour of the constitutional principle that a Government not possessing the confidence of the country had no right to make appointments by wholesale as the late Government did on that occasion. (*Loud cheers.*) When they came into the Government they found that those gentlemen, occupying the position of men under a motion of want of confidence, had turned to every one of their friends, had asked whom they wanted to put into office, and day by day from the 27th of October to the 5th of November had passed ten, twelve, or fifteen Orders in Council appointing their friends and relatives (*Hear, hear*), and not only appointing their friends, but themselves to office. (*Cheers.*)

The present Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick and one of the judges of Nova Scotia sat in this House up to the last day when the Government resigned, and the former gentleman, who occupied the seat of Finance Minister on the very evening of the resignation, made a long speech in defence of the Government when he had been appointed Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick, from the 22nd October. Hon. gentlemen pretend that they had the confidence of the House at the meeting of Parliament, but those who were in the secret of the Cabinet—the two Ministers to whom he had referred—knew so well that they did not possess the confidence of the country, that they got the Orders in Council appointing them passed on the eve of the meeting of Parliament.

And now they found these gentlemen, who had appointed their colleagues under such circumstances, and who not only had not the confidence of the country, but had returned to this House with only a baker's dozen at their back—(*Cheers*)—rising to complain that a great injustice had been done because some of these appointments had been cancelled by the present Government.

The member for Montreal Centre (Mr. Ryan) complained because Mr. Purcell had been dismissed; but he admitted that the snug little office in which Mr. Purcell had been put, with a salary of $1,800 a year, had been vacant for eighteen months, and it had only existed once before in order to provide a comfortable place for the friend of a Minister. (*Hear, hear.*) The office was now vacant. It had not been given to one of the friends of this Administration, but the appointment was not necessary, and so they cancelled it. He had not gone into all the details of these appointments, but he knew that a great many of them had not been refilled, and that a large amount had thus been saved to the country.

They knew that these appointments were made when the Ministry did not possess the confidence of the country; to please their friends and to embarrass their successors, they were made at a time when they had no more right to make them than any man walking in the street. The present Government had not cancelled the appointments made on the 27th October, but only those from the 28th to the 5th November, amounting to eighty-three.

As to the case referred to by the member for Cape Breton, the person was not dismissed, but the appointment was simply not carried out. Hon. gentlemen would say that they had followed English precedent in this matter.

Mr. BOWELL: Did not Mr. Gladstone make some appointments before resigning?

Hon. Mr. DORION replied that they made one or two. They elevated gentlemen to the peerage, but they did not make appointments by the hundreds. It would create a revolution in England if, after the Government had lost the confidence of the country and a vote of want of confidence was pending, they appointed a hundred officers during the last five or six days of their tenure of office. That, however, could never happen in England, because the situation in that country and that applying to the predecessors of this Government were very different. A hundred appointments here would mean six hundred or seven hundred in England in proportion to the population and the number of offices. Dr. Strange had never been appointed to any office; there was no order appointing him. He had not been dismissed from any office, for he had never held any.

Mr. BOWELL: He held a commission.

Hon. Mr. DORION said of course he held a commission as a volunteer surgeon. There was a surgeon attached to most of the volunteer forces, but that did not bring much pay—(*Hear, hear*)—and it was the loss of that which Dr. Strange felt. He was ready at any time to meet the hon. gentleman before any constituency in the country and discuss the question of these appointments. (*Cheers.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the Minister of Justice had in the course of his speech the gross indecency to allude to a trial now proceeding in reference to the seat of the member for Montreal Centre. The *Ottawa Times* said that the hon. gentleman

himself was to be Chief Justice. It was an understood thing that the Chief Justice, who had fair claims for retirement, from old age and long service, had leave of absence until the close of the session, and that the hon. gentleman now sitting in this House had in spirit his commission in his pocket. He should like the hon. gentleman to get up and deny that the moment the session was over he was to take his seat upon the Bench.

Hon. Mr. DORION: I say there is nothing of the kind. (*Enthusiastic cheering.*)

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Then the organ is badly informed. It is simply a penny whistle. He hoped the statement of the Government would be as true three months hence as it was at present. He contended that it was always the rule for an incoming Ministry to allow the outgoing Ministry to fill up all vacancies. The last Derby Administration in England had, after their resignation, appointed the Earl of Mayo, a Minister in that Government, to the highest, most lucrative, and imposing office in the gift of Her Majesty—the Vice-Royalty of India. Mr. Gladstone, after he had retired, appointed Mr. Palles, Attorney General of Ireland in his Government, Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer of Ireland, and made a number of other appointments. He believed it would be found that the majority of the appointments in October last were to fill up vacancies. If any Government thought their predecessors made too many appointments they could reduce the staff, putting it on that ground. The dismissal of Dr. Strange he considered a very great mistake. He had a right to vote. He was his (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald's) friend and school-fellow, and he should have been very much disappointed if he had not voted for him. He had not asked him for his vote.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It was quite safe.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had no doubt that he should get it. He had not asked the officers of that institution for their vote.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: They were quite safe too.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had not doubted that he should get a considerable support from them, seeing that he had appointed most of them. He alleged that the Government had used undue influence in this election, and if he had lost his election he would have claimed his seat on the ground of the undue influence exercised by the Finance Minister.

He alleged that Dr. Strange was appointed the surgeon of that Battery as he already was of the Volunteer force, but was to receive the pay and allowances of an assistant surgeon as the battery was not large enough for a full surgeon. The appointment was gazetted, and that was according to English precedent, as good as a Commission. A man had been appointed in Dr. Strange's place who had ceased to be a militia officer at all, but who had voted against him while Dr. Strange voted for him. He characterized this as a most unfortunate act on the part of the Government, compared the dismissal of Dr. Strange to that of the Elder Pitt, afterwards Lord Chatham, from his post in the army, and other dismissals in the reign of George the III, declared that army and militia officers without number had seats in the House of Commons, said he believed the Premier had been misled into this action, and was sorry for it, and expressed his disbelief that Dr. Strange ever used any undue influence.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT read a letter in which it was stated that Dr. Strange came to the writer's house and asked him to vote for Sir John after he had voted for Mr. Carruthers. Dr. Strange came again to his house, abused his wife, and told her never to enter his surgery again for medicine. (*Laughter.*) That was one of many similar statements.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he never asked Dr. Strange to canvass for him, and whatever he did he did on his own account.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said two questions had been raised by the hon. gentlemen; the one was the question of the exercise of the powers of office by members of a Government, or persons in the service of a Government, to control the franchise; and the other was what was the proper line of conduct of the civil servants of the country. He had always held that the power of the members of a Government or their subordinates should in no sense be used to control the freedom of election. The country determined who should and who should not vote, and it would be wholly unjustifiable for any Government to discountenance in the slightest decree the exercise of the power of voting by any person to whom the law gave the power to vote.

With reference to the situation of the permanent civil servants of the country, he differed *in toto* from the hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). He did not think it followed that because certain civil servants were now allowed under the law to vote, the vote being unknown, they should be allowed to take an active part in elections. He did not say that that applied to all classes of public servants—the country postmasters of Ontario, for instance; but those who were receiving a salary which was something of such consideration and importance as to influence their public conduct, while obtaining protection for their votes, could not receive the same protection in regard to a canvass or an electoral discussion and therefore all the mischief against which he has spoken on former occasions.

The public officer who was allowed to interfere in elections, who had any influence, would be presently told to interfere or would be expected to interfere and the influence of the Government would be put into operation by the exercise of pressure and influence over subordinates. Therefore it was that he entirely denied that they could with safety agree to the proposition that civil servants were to be allowed to interfere actively in elections.

The right hon. gentleman had spoken of the mother country. He would give him some of the views of Colonial Secretaries on such subjects as these. The Duke of Newcastle, in reference to a dismissal in Nova Scotia in the year 1860 said: "The removal of Mr. Hamilton was no more than consonant with generally received principles of administration. It would be manifestly unreasonable that any one should expect to be in active opposition to the Government, and at the same time remain in the employment of the Government. It is competent to any man to choose between political

life and official life, but one man cannot expect to combine the two positions in himself," and so on. Earl Grey at an earlier period, and Lord John Russell at a still earlier period, had said the same thing, and he quoted from their opinions at some length. He was glad that this discussion had taken place, and he would be equally glad to record by resolution of the House the opinion that public servants ought not to actively interfere in political contests.

Mr. BOWELL: Do you include militia officers?

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said he thought they might clearly come within the same category as country postmasters. He considered that if they were going to do that which would enable the Government never to be under the necessity of interfering with the permanency of the civil service of the country, they must accept the good rules laid down in the despatches quoted. But if civil servants were to have that amount of political liberty challenged for them by the hon. member for Kingston, and if they chose to use it against the Government, they must go out.

With regard to Dr. Strange, he understood that the appointment was as medical officer, and not as assistant-surgeon, thus distinguishing him from the regularly appointed officer. He assured the House that during his short tenure of office the difficulties of the incoming Government were greatly enhanced by the active hostility of the civil service, and he had no doubt this continued, although in a lesser degree, up to the present time.

He defended the Minister of Justice from the attack made upon him by the right hon. member for Kingston, and thought when he charged that gentleman with being more ingenious than ingenuous he was doing him a very great injustice. (*Hear, hear.*) If there was anything at all for which the Minister of Justice was admired more than another, it was his honesty, straightforwardness, and the frankness with which he opened his mind to the House.

The hon. member had characterized the reference of the Minister of Justice to the election case of the member for Montreal Centre (Mr. Ryan) as indecent. Had the right hon. gentleman so soon forgotten the time when he had himself, as Minister of Justice and while a controverted election was pending before a Committee of the House, charged the member concerned, the hon. member for York West (Mr. Blain), with buying his election? (*Hear, hear.*) If it was indecent in the Minister of Justice to make the allusion to the hon. member for Montreal Centre, what epithet should he find which would be severe enough for the man who used such an expression with regard to a case to be tried by his own political friends and supporters? (*Cheers.*) The hon. member for Montreal Centre was himself the first to throw the stone by his reference to the position of the member for the Western Division of that city, and stating that he had spent so many thousand dollars in his election. The hon. gentleman forgot about people living in glass houses, and the necessity there was for not throwing stones. People had only to look at the reports in the *Gazette* and *Herald* to see that the hon. member's house was very glassy indeed. (*Cheers.*)

The right hon. member for Kingston, in defending the late Government for making those appointments, quoted the case of Lord Mayo and the Vice-royalty of India. Everybody remembered that case, for the simple reason that although the appointment was not moved against, it was the subject of very general discussion and unfavourable comment among the press and people of England, and it was suffered to remain principally because it was of such an isolated character. To compare it with circumstances of the nature and extent of the appointment under discussion upon this occasion was quite out of the question.

Again, the right hon. gentleman referred to the recent appointment of Mr. Palles as Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer by Mr. Gladstone, but that, too, was the subject of very unfavourable comment. Surely the right hon. gentleman would not contend that because a case of this description occurred now and again in England, there was some constitutional rule that an outgoing Administration was to do this thing. The principle upon which appointments were made was the responsibility of those making them for their character to the people and the Legislature; that they should be the subject of discussion, and, if necessary, of reprehension and of cancellation; but what cared such men as the late Government for a vote of censure for their appointments? They had already been condemned because they attempted to bribe the country with the country's money. (*Cheers.*) What feeling of responsibility could possess them at such a time? The reputations of such men could well afford to stand the shock of a disgraceful minor appointment. (*Cheers.*) The only safeguard which the public had that these appointments would be made in a proper manner, and fitted to win public confidence, was in this case gone.

He pointed out the great difference between the circumstances under which the Gladstone Administration was defeated, and those attending and leading to the defeat of the late Government of Canada, and contended that even if the parallel held good up to that point, there it failed, and they might search in vain for the circumstances necessary to complete it. He commented in severe terms upon the fact that Mr. Tilley and Mr. Macdonald occupied seats in the House, and helped to swell that majority or minority by which the late Government intended to stand or fall, while all the time they had their patents of office in their pockets.

There was very strong evidence from all concurrent circumstances that the late Government had counted pretty surely upon the close of their career, and all they had to do was to prolong the struggle until they had made appointment to every office in existence, and to some which did not come into existence for months afterwards. Yet the right hon. gentleman who led that Government was the man who came to this House and told them that they must be guided by English precedent. When the right hon. gentleman mentioned a thousand appointments under similar circumstances in England, then they would be prepared to consider the propriety of adopting the practice in Canada. He reminded the House of the fact that when the present Minister of Public Works, on the eve of the resignation of the late Government, having insisted upon a division, he was told in reply that there were other gentlemen wanting to speak, and an adjournment was asked. The adjournment was consented to and the interval was employed in

writing out and preparing the appointments to every office which existed, and some of which did not exist.

He also reminded the House that the salaries in Customs alone were upon the occasion increased by some $60,000, and afterwards reduced by the present Government to $36,000. With regard to the officials at the Kingston Penitentiary, it was pretty clear from the evidence of the Finance Minister that some of them, and especially the warden, had taken a very active part against the Government in the general election. From what had fallen from the right hon. member himself there was no doubt that a large number of the officers of that institution voted for him, and it was equally clear that out of the Penitentiary he got the majority. (*Hear, hear and laughter.*) He congratulated the right hon. gentleman on his constituency, and the constituency upon their representative.

The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid prolonged cheering.

The motion was then put and carried.

* * *

NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

Mr. COOK moved that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying for an enquiry into the affairs of the Northern Railway Company of Canada as regards the working expenses of the road, the application of moneys received by the Company, and the cost of all extensions and improvements paid out of the revenue of the said Company. He said he wished this investigation so that the Government lien and the stock held by private individuals, if it were worth anything at all, might be made of benefit.

He quoted from an article in *The Globe* during the spring session of last year reflecting upon the purpose with which the Bill was introduced to remove the Government lien, and he stated that the people of North Simcoe owned some $50,000 worth of stock in the road which the Managing Director was attempting to ignore.

Some time ago a meeting of stockholders was held in the Ross House, Toronto, at which a Committee was appointed to investigate the books of the Company. Mr. Cumberland was present on that occasion and said that he would be willing to throw the books open to the Committee. When the Committee went to see them, Mr. Cumberland refused to let them see the books, and said, "Where is your authority?" He held that in a matter in which the Government was so much interested they should take steps to have an investigation. He would suggest that the Government appoint one Commissioner, the City of Toronto one, and the original stockholders a third.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that there was no necessity for this motion, as the Government had full power to look into the affairs of this Company, and they were now doing this, and would take good care that private interests would not suffer.

Mr. DYMOND said that as legislation with regards to this road was being asked for by the Company running it, and they were assailed in the lobbies and at their desks with documents with reference to the road, it was desirable to have possession of the whole of the facts. If, therefore, the Hon. Premier would grant the investigation asked for, it would be very satisfactory. After the statement the hon. gentleman had made, however, perhaps the mover of the resolution would consent to withdraw it.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that no Bill could pass the House without the consent of the Government, and the Government would not allow any Bill to pass which would be prejudicial to private interests.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) said that the matter was one of importance, and that it should be dealt with speedily.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that of course if the Government insisted on receiving the full amount of their claim against the road there would be nothing for the private bondholders. The Government were giving the matter their earnest attention, and would endeavour, if consistent with the public interests, to protect the private interests the hon. gentleman had referred to.

Mr. MOSS said that the Bill which he had introduced had been brought in with the full consent of the Government.

Mr. COCKBURN thought it very desirable that the road should be placed on a satisfactory footing, and that legislation with regard to it should take place this session.

After a few further words from Mr. Cook,

The motion was withdrawn.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RAILWAY

Mr. DAVIES moved for correspondence concerning the contract for the construction of the railway in Prince Edward Island, and the handing of it over to the Government. He said that the Legislature of Prince Edward Island in 1871 determined to construct this road, and to build a wooden fence along it; subsequently, the Government desired to substitute a wire fence for the wooden one, and this was done, but the fence was of such an unsubstantial character that there was a great deal of complaint about it among the farmers on the line of the railway.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the correspondence with reference to the fence could only be got from the Local Government, and it would not be possible to obtain it this session. They would endeavour, however, to get it by next session. The only correspondence which this Government could produce was the instruction to a Commissioner who had been sent to Prince Edward Island to look into the matter.

The motion was carried, after some remarks from **Mr. SINCLAIR**.

* * *

THE ROUTE TO FORT GARRY

Mr. HIGINBOTHAM moved for copies of all tenders and correspondence relative to the contract for carrying passengers and

freight between Thunder Bay and Fort Garry, with the names of the parties tendering, and the amount of bonus asked, the rate per head to be charged for passengers, and the rate per ton for freight; the number of passengers and the amount of freight which the said contractors are bound to take on the trip, together with a statement of any other arrangements made which were not included in the original tender; also the names of the sureties offered, with the amount for which the said sureties are liable.

He said that it was understood there was a large margin between the amount for which the persons who had received the contract had agreed to take it and the amount for which the next highest tenderers had agreed to do the work, and it would be satisfactory to the other persons who had tendered to know whether the contractors were in a position to carry out what they had undertaken.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it would not be possible to bring down the correspondence for some days. He would, therefore, read a synopsis of the contract entered into in order to inform the House of the character of the contract at as early a day as possible. It was as follows:—

"Contractors during the season of navigation of 1874 to maintain the line on a scale sufficient to carry passengers and freight from Thunder Bay to Fort Garry, and vice versa, without delay. Contractors shall have experienced engineers and crews on steamers and boats; to have the use of plant and buildings belonging to the Department of Public Works, and hand back the same in the fall in good order, reasonable allowance being made for wear and tear. All arrangements on the road as to maintenance of boats, steamers and wagons, and all other plant delivered over to be subject to oversight by a Government Engineer or Inspector, whose orders shall be obeyed."

"Contractors shall not run steamer off the line of route. Passengers and freight to leave Thunder Bay three times per week, or daily, if necessary, also three times per week from Fort Garry. Passengers to be conveyed through at the farthest in ten or twelve days; freight in fifteen or twenty days. Contractors to make provision against delay arising from accidents to plant. Competent engineers shall be placed on the steamers and tug boats sufficiently well manned and fuel provided to prevent delays in running. Contractors to have houses and tents in good order for immigrants and furnish meals at 30 cents. Intoxicating liquors strictly prohibited."

"Contractors or employees shall not trade in furs. Contractors will make their own arrangements with Indian agents for transportation of Indians. Should employees behave badly to Indians or others, they are to be dismissed. Contractors to arrange so as to have passengers as comfortable as possible on Sundays. Department not bound to complete work within any given time, and contractors have no claim if works are not completed. Contractors to make casual repairs to roads or property in use for a bulk sum of $1,000. Contractors to provide proper covers for stages and wagons; also necessary blankets. Contractors to issue and post up approved notices in English and French, stating rates, regulations, et cetera."

"Rates not to exceed the following:—From Thunder Bay to Fort Garry, and vice versa, each passenger, $10 each, each passenger under 14 years of age, $5; children under three years of age, free; freight (not including household furniture or machinery), $2 per 100 lbs.; household furniture (at owner's risk), $3 per 100 lbs.; machinery at specified rates, to be approved by the officer in charge; cattle, horses, sheep, et cetera, at special rates, to be approved as above; way-passengers and freight inland, 5 cents per mile for passage; freight 1 1/2 cents per 100 lbs. per mile; water and portage, 2 cents per mile for passage; freight, 1/2 cent per 100 lbs. per mile; Thunder Bay to Fort Francis, or vice versa, $7. Distances as herein stated to be taken as the number of miles for which above rates for way-passengers and freight may be charged. A table of distances follows."

"The contract may be cancelled on good cause, in which case bona fide losses will be paid, or if disputed be referred to Dominion arbitrators. Boats, machinery, et cetera, will be subject to inspection, and if dangerous or unsafe, contractors are to provide other suitable means of carrying on the service. All papers relating to this contract, previous to date of the same, are wholly suspended by the present. A bonus or sum of $75,000 is to be paid in six equal instalments of $12,500 each, on the 1st June, July, August, September, and October, and the 2nd day of November of the present year, 1874."

* * *

UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS

Hon. Mr. TUPPER moved for a return of appropriations made for the year 1873-1874 remaining unexpended on the 15th day of May instant.—Carried.

* * *

MR. FARRER'S APPOINTMENT

Mr. BOWELL moved for correspondence between the Government and E.J. Farrer, formerly one of the editors of the Toronto *Mail*, and now an Emigrant Agent in Ireland. He said that Mr. Farrer wrote and defended the late Government up to the latest moment, and the next thing heard of him was that he was canvassing for the Minister of Finance. Immediately after this followed the appointment to the office he now holds. The Finance Minister prided himself that he did not spend money in his election.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE rose to a point of order. The hon. gentleman's motion did not relate to the Lennox election. It seems they could not discuss any question without this election being brought up.

Mr. BOWELL said that he was only making his motion in order to ascertain what the country was paying for the Finance Minister's election.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I have no objection to the motion, Sir, but there is no correspondence. (*Laughter.*)

The motion was then carried.

* * *

GREENSVILLE POSTMASTER

Mr. BAIN moved for correspondence connected with the appointment of H.J. Morden as postmaster of the village of Greensville, County of Wentworth. He said that upon the resignation of that gentleman a large majority of the inhabitants of the village of Greensville memorialized the late Government to appoint a certain other gentleman to the position, but they appointed a different person, and the post office was removed from the place at Bullocks Corners, where it had been for about twenty years, to an inconvenient part of the village.

Since then he (Mr. Bain) had represented the matter to the present Government, and they had caused the office to be removed to its old position. The reason he made his motion was that the people of the village wished to ascertain the reason for the late Government taking the action they did in the matter.

The motion was carried.

* * *

RIDEAU CANAL BRIDGE

Mr. HAGGART moved for correspondence between the Department of Public Works and the town of Perth, or any other party, in reference to the construction of Oliver's Ferry Bridge across the Rideau Canal. He said that the late Government promised to give a grant of $10,000 to aid in building the bridge, but the present Government refused to carry out that promise.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the late Government had promised $10,000 if the town of Perth would give $8,000, the presumption being that the bridge would cost $18,000. Now it appeared that the bridge would only cost $12,000. The Government would have given their proportion of this as 10 to 8, but the people would not have it, wanting the whole sum of $10,000, to which he believed they had no claim.

The motion was carried.

* * *

ARBITRARY DISMISSAL, WELLAND CANAL—SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. PLUMB moved for copies of all correspondence in possession of the Government relative to the suspension or dismissal of Mr. John B. Smith as Superintendent of the Southern Section of the Welland Canal, and also for copies of all instructions given to Mr. Bodwell, and for all correspondence between the said Mr. Bodwell and members of the Government, or between members of the Government and other parties in relation to the said Mr. John B. Smith.

He explained that he had been requested to make this motion by individuals of both parties and had no personal knowledge of the matter. He said it was generally believed that Mr. Smith had been discharged for political reasons.

The motion was carried.

* * *

PRINTING REPORT

Mr. OLIVER moved concurrence in the report of the Joint Committee of both houses on Parliamentary printing on the 16th instant.—Carried.

* * *

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY BRIDGES

Mr. BLAIN moved for a statement of the cost of bridges, et cetera, on the Intercolonial Railway. He said that as far as he could ascertain it was intended in the first instance to construct most of the bridges of wood, and that three large ones had been constructed of iron at a cost of $57,000 less than if they had been of wood. He thought it important if this were a fact, that the Government should know it.

The motion was carried.

* * *

APPOINTMENT AND ARBITRARY DISMISSALS

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) moved for a statement of the number of appointments made by the late Government on and after the 27th October last by Commissions signed by His Excellency; also, for the number of such appointments cancelled by the present Government, the names and places of residence of such dismissed officials; also, all correspondence between the Government, or any member of the Government, and others, in reference to the dismissal of Mr. Hamilton as Collector of Customs at North Sydney, Nova Scotia, and the appointment of his successor.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there was no such correspondence, except the recommendation by Mr. Mackay of Mr. Hamilton's successor.

After some discussion the motion passed.

* * *

SESSIONAL CLERKS, ET CETERA

Mr. BOWELL moved that the Clerk of the House do lay on the table a statement showing the names, present salaries, and length of service affixed to the respective offices at Confederation, showing the increase of salaries in such cases from that date to the present; also, the number of names of extra or sessional clerks engaged by him under Rule 110 during the present session, their pay, the date of their engagement, each respectively, and the duties performed by them; also, a statement of payments made by him under Rule 82 to witnesses, with the names of such witnesses, the amount paid to each, and before what Committees each witness was called; also, a detailed account of the expense incurred by him for shorthand writers, and the names of each Committee for which work was performed.

The motion was carried.

* * *

AMENDMENT OF THE STAMP ACT

The House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Law relating to Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, **Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)** in the chair.

Some slight amendments were made to the Bill, and the Committee rose and reported.

The amendments were concurred in, and the Bill read a second time.

* * *

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

The House went into Committee on the Bill to make further provision for the Management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada, as amended by the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, **Mr. MOSS** in the chair.

Some slight amendments were made to the Bill, and the Committee rose and reported.

The amendments were concurred in and the Bill read a second time.

* * *

RAILWAY COMPANIES AND THEIR CREDITORS

Mr. KILLAM moved the second reading of the Bill to facilitate arrangements between Railway Companies and their creditors. —Carried.

* * *

RICHMOND HILL

Mr. BLAIN moved the second reading of the Bill to attach the village of Richmond Hill to the electoral district of the West riding of the County of York. He said that that village was situated between two ridings, and the Municipal Act made no provision for such a case.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked what was done in the last election.

Mr. BLAIN said the village had to be divided, and a portion was in each of two ridings. He might state that two-thirds of the electors were in the West riding, to which it was proposed to annex the village.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE agreed that it was very inconvenient to divide the village.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE thought that a general scheme should be introduced next session which could cover such cases.

The Bill was then read a second time.

* * *

NEW BRUNSWICK SCHOOL LAW

Mr. COSTIGAN asked leave to withdraw the proposed motion for an address to Her Majesty on the subject of the law respecting Common Schools adopted by the Local Legislature of New Brunswick in 1871, and praying for the passing of an Act making certain amendments to the British North America Act, 1867.

He said that he believed it to be inexpedient at present to press the matter any further. It afforded him pleasure to honourably withdraw this motion, and he believed he did so with the approval of his constituents. He had only made his motion for a sense of duty and it afforded him satisfaction to have to bear testimony to the considerate manner in which he had been treated by those who differed from him.

* * *

HURON AND TRENT VALLEY CANAL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House go into Committee tomorrow to consider the resolution: "That the Government be authorized to negotiate with the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company, for the transfer of certain works belonging to the Dominion on the line of the proposed canal, such transfer to be subject to the approval of Parliament at the succeeding session".

* * *

TRURO AND PICTOU RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the House go into Committee tomorrow to consider a resolution: "That the Government be authorized to negotiate during the Parliamentary recess for the transfer of the railway from Truro to Pictou to some organized company, on condition that such company will extend the said railway from New Glasgow or Pictou to the Gut of Canso, or some place in Cape Breton, within a specified time, such transfer to be subject to the approval of Parliament at the next session".

The House adjourned at 1.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 19, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE presented returns in reply to several addresses asking for correspondence. Among them was a return listing employees whose salaries were increased in 1873.

* * *

PETITIONS

Several petitions were presented praying for a prohibitory liquor law.

* * *

REPORTS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the ninth report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Mr. BABY presented the report of the Committee on the Library.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) presented the report of the Committee on the Interests of Manufacturers, and moved that it be printed.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) said he believed there was a majority of gentlemen holding protectionist views upon that Committee, and their report, if he was not misinformed, was dissented from by the minority. He was unwilling that the views of the majority should be set forth as the views of the House.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) said the minority had brought in a report of their own. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the sixth and seventh reports of the Committee on Printing.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the sixth report of the Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines.

Mr. RYMAL presented the fifteenth report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. IRVING presented the report of the Committee on the Act to amend the Criminal Law relating to violence, threats and molestation.

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the House go into Committee of the Whole Saturday, to consider certain resolutions respecting the transfer to the Western Counties Railway Company of Nova Scotia of the railway from Windsor to the Trunk Line from Halifax to Truro.

* * *

RAILWAY LEGISLATION

In reply to Mr. Thompson (Haldimand),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that his bill and others, which interfered with the provisions of the Railway Act, had been dropped by the Committee with a view to the Government bringing in a more comprehensive measure.

* * *

PROVENCHER

Before the orders of the day were commenced,

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) enquired whether the writ for the election of a member for the County of Provencher had yet been issued, and if the electors had been notified of the circumstances attending the expulsion of the late member Louis Riel.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the Government had, as usual, communicated with the Lieut.-Governor regarding the appointment of a Returning Officer, and they had not as yet received a reply.

* * *

CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. FOURNIER**, the sum of $100 was inserted in the 35th section of the Controverted Elections Bill as surety before the trial of a controverted election.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE expressed his regret that the Act had been amended in this way, and that it was not allowed to stand as originally proposed. In his view this was a retrograde step.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee of Supply on the supplementary estimates for 1874-1875. In reference to the item for the Pacific Railway, he said it was put in the estimates for the purpose of enabling the Government to make

certain preliminary arrangements in respect of the work. The rest were principally revotes.

* * *

ARBITRARY DISMISSALS AND APPOINTMENTS

Mr. RYAN said he had put a notice on the paper for a return of appointments to the Customs in Montreal since the lst January, 1874. He had been informed that these had been made on the recommendation of the authorities at Montreal, but on the papers he had found no recommendation of the kind. Referring to the position of Assistant Surveyor of Customs in that city he said that Mr. MacLennan had resigned because his salary was insufficient. Upon this, he (Mr. Ryan) had recommended that the situation be not filled, but that the salary of Mr. MacLennan be divided among the other employees, the remaining officials being sufficient for the work. The late Government did not take this recommendation in its entirety. They did not fill the position, but only divided among the other employees some portion of that salary.

Since January last the new Government had again filled this position of Assistant Surveyor, and had appointed new employees at salaries of some $6,900 in all. Then there had been appointed an Assistant Cashier of the office at a salary of $1,200, the occupant being a brother-in-law of the Hon. Minister of Justice. Mr. Lemieux, of the Post Office, had been transferred to this department at a salary of $1,000. Mr. Chartrand had been appointed landing waiter at $750. Mr. G.A. Lourier, and one Mercier to similar positions at salaries of $750 each. Then Mr. Henri Lacroix, agent, who had been originally in the service at $800 and had resigned for reasons of his own, had been reappointed at a salary of $1,200.

There was another case to which he would make especial reference. In October last, at his (Mr. Ryan's) recommendation, Messrs. Alfred Bourett and Michael McGarry had been appointed as supernumeraries at salaries of $550 each. These appointments had both been cancelled by the incoming Ministry, but since January Mr. Bourett had been re-installed but Mr. McGarry left out. He would like to know the reason of this. He concluded by stating that none of the appointments which he had referred to appeared by the papers to have been recommended by the Collector of Customs, and he would like to have some information regarding them.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) said applications had been received by the Department to fill some vacancies in the Montreal Custom House, and requisitions were made from Montreal for the filling up of two vacancies which the hon. gentleman had referred to.

Mr. RYAN regretted that these requisitions had not been brought down with the papers which had been laid on the table of the House. He understood that several new offices had been created.

Hon. Mr. BURPEE (St. John - City & County) said there had been only three new offices created in the Montreal Custom House Department.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he desired to make some explanations regarding the case of Mr. Purcell, which was referred to at the last sitting of the House; an impression seemed to prevail that the office had been created with a salary of $1,800 a year attached to it just as the Government was going out of office. That, however, was not according to the circumstances. The previous winter a very urgent appeal came to him from a large body of influential merchants of Montreal, urging the appointment of an Assistant Surveyor of Customs. No action was taken by the representatives of the City of Montreal. No action even then was taken because he was anxious to inform himself as to the necessity of the appointment.

The Surveyor of the post had over one hundred warehouses to inspect, and it was impossible for him to spend his time going backwards and forwards and to keep that surveillance over them which was desirable, and at the same time attend to his official duties. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) considered that the application for the appointment of an Assistant Surveyor was well founded, and would tend to increase the revenue. Consequently he accepted the recommendation of his hon. friend Mr. Ryan to promote Mr. Purcell, who was receiving, he thought, $1,300 a year in another capacity. Mr. Purcell was an able and most efficient officer, and he was promoted to the position of Assistant Surveyor and Warehouseman. If he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) remembered rightly, no appointment was made to the position Mr. Purcell previously held, so there was only an addition of $500 in the appointment to an important office.

The Clerk of the Privy Council was labouring under a misconception in this matter, and had mistaken this Mr. Purcell for another man of the same name in another place. They did not take advantage of the possession of office at the last moment to make the appointment. It had been urged upon them by a large portion of the trade of Montreal a year before, and was heartily recommended by the Collector of Customs. It would be seen, therefore, that he had taken every possible precaution to satisfy himself that the promotion was a necessary one.

Hon. Mr. DORION accepted the explanation as satisfactory, but the Surveyor had told him there was no necessity for the appointment.

* * *

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE

Hon. Mr. HOLTON desired to take this opportunity of calling the attention of the Government to a matter of some importance to the foreign trade of the St. Lawrence. An Order in Council passed in 1850, by which foreign vessels passing above Quebec to parts on the St. Lawrence were required to come to anchor, and to obtain a licence from the Collector of the Port of Quebec, authorizing them to ascend the river. This Order in Council applied to all foreign vessels till the Treaty of Washington, a year or two ago, which relieved American vessels and placed them on the same footing as British vessels.

The suggestion he had to make to the Government was that the Order in Council should be cancelled as regarded foreign vessels, and power be retained to renew the order from year to year. He would not advise the Government to relinquish any right possessed

beyond the right conceded by the treaty with the United States. There was, however, a manifest inconvenience, to use the mildest words, in requiring other foreign vessels to render duties not applicable to United States vessels. In many cases foreign vessels entering the port after office hours on Saturday were compelled to remain at Quebec until the Custom House was opened on Monday morning. In our short season of navigation this operated as a very severe check on trade. He was assured that when this grievance was brought under the notice of the Government they would take steps to secure a prompt remedy.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the matter would receive the attention of the Government.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD ventured to suggest that it would be well if the Government changed the Order in Council to provide that the tax might be paid in Montreal instead of Quebec, and that the new Order in Council should take effect for a year, and be renewed year by year, because it might be well for the Government always to keep in their hands the power, if they did not find it convenient to renew the Order in Council, of allowing it to lapse.

* * *

SUPPLY

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and passed the following items:—

Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency	$1,800
Stationery Office, additional	$5,000
Legislations—Maps for Railway Committee	$1,695
Steam Communication on Lake Superior and other services (omitted)	$12,000

Hon. Mr. TUPPER suggested that steps be taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents as had this year occurred at Quebec, which necessitated an expenditure of $20,000 to raise and repair the steamers *Druid* and *Napoleon III*.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the graving dock about to be constructed at Quebec would tend to prevent such accidents in future.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL expressed satisfaction at learning that the Government intended to proceed with this work, which was so necessary.

Removal of obstructions in navigable waters	$5,000
Schooner Packet Service, Prince Edward Island, to and from small ports around the coast	$1,000
For raising and repairing the steamer *Napoleon III*, and repairing steamer *Druid*, damaged by the ice bridge at Quebec	$20,000
Fisheries service, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba	$750
Maintenance of a Government schooner employed in the protection of the Gulf Fisheries	$10,000
To provide for a building to be used as a hospital at Arichat, Cape Breton (revote)	$1,000
Aid towards the extension of the Hospital at St. Catharines	$2,000
Public buildings, Manitoba	$12,000
Removal of snow, Ottawa	$2,000
Gas for the Senate and Departmental buildings (omitted)	$8,000
Fuel and light, Rideau Hall	$5,000
Custom House, Pictou, to complete	$12,000
Marine Hospital, Prince Edward Island	$2,500
Post office, London	$2,400
Post office, St. John, New Brunswick	$10,000
Quarantine Station, Yarmouth, N.S.	$1,000
Post office, Ottawa, for ground	$7,000
Observatory, Quebec	$2,000
Rent and repairs	$10,000
Removal of obstructions, Victoria Harbour, British Columbia	$16,000
Dredging and tug steamer, Victoria Harbour, British Columbia	$15,600
Petitcodiac, New Brunswick	$1,200
Tynemouth, New Brunswick	$2,500
Shippagan Breakwater, New Brunswick	$10,000
Herring Cove, New Brunswick	$10,000
Grand Manan Harbour, New Brunswick, tonnage dues to be collected by the Government	$5,000
Port George, Nova Scotia	$5,000
Cow Bay, Nova Scotia	$25,000
Metaghan Cove, Nova Scotia	$5,000
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia	$1,000
Plympton, Nova Scotia	$1,200
Tignish, Prince Edward Island	$6,000
Souris and New London, Prince Edward Island	$4,000

For preservation of navigation and approach to railway wharf, Sackville	$500
Improvement of River John, Nova Scotia	$2,000
Removal of chains and anchors in St. Lawrence River	$10,000
Telegraph lines, British Columbia	$13,000
Dredging, general (additional)	$12,000
Roads and bridges	$4,000
Indians—To meet the expenses attending the making of any treaties which may be concluded during the year with the Indians of the Saskatchewan	$34,000
Inland Revenue collection—Procuring standards of weights and measures (revote)	$20,000

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) expressed regret that no appropriation was put in the estimates for the purpose of recouping those whose land was destroyed by the raising of dams.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) called the attention of the Government to the claims of those who had accounts for burying the bodies of those drowned at the wreck of the *Atlantic*.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said all claims had been paid.

In reply to Mr. Thompson (Haldimand),

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had referred the claims of those who had suffered by the raising of the dams, such as the one at Dunnville, on the Welland Canal, to the officers of the Department, whose duty it was to report on the subject. They had reported adversely to these claims, and until he had evidence before him that these reports were incorrect he could not ask the House to vote any sum for the purpose mentioned. The matter would be further enquired into.

Mr. McCALLUM thought it was a shame that payment had not been made before this time.

Mr. PATERSON hoped the matter would receive the attention of the Government, as very serious injustice was suffered by the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of the Grand River, arising from the raising of these dams.

The Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The item of $1,500,000 for Pacific Railway construction, and improvements on navigable waters in the interior in connection therewith, was held over till the second reading of the Pacific Railway Bill

COW RIVER BREAKWATER

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the House into Committee on the resolution regarding the purchase by the Government of the breakwater and harbour property of Cow Bay, Nova Scotia, now vested in the Gowrie Mining Company. The resolution having been adopted, a bill founded on it was introduced and read a first time.

* * *

HARBOUR MASTERS

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) introduced a bill to provide for the appointment of Harbour Masters at certain ports in Ontario and Quebec, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island.

The resolution was adopted and reported, and a bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

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ADULTERATION

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the Bill to prevent the adulteration of food and liquors was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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PUBLIC WORKS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Bill to amend the Act respecting the Public Works of Canada was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

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VAGRANTS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. DORION**, the Bill to amend the Act respecting vagrants was read a second and third time and passed.

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SEAMEN'S EXTENSION ACT

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved the House into Committee on resolutions extending certain provisions of the Seamen's Act to vessels employed in navigating the inland waters of Canada.

These having been passed, a bill was introduced.

* * *

NORTHWEST CUSTOMS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved the House into Committee to consider the resolutions respecting Customs duties and the importation and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in the Northwest, upon which a bill was introduced.

The resolutions were adopted, reported and concurred in; a bill founded thereon was then introduced and read a first time.

QUEBEC GRAVING DOCK

The House went into Committee on the resolutions respecting the construction of a graving dock at Quebec, upon which a bill was introduced.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) explained that it was proposed to appropriate $400,000 for this purpose.

The resolution was adopted, reported and concurred in.

It being six o'clock **The SPEAKER** left the chair.

AFTER RECESS

HURON AND TRENT VALLEY CANAL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: A resolution was passed authorizing the Government to negotiate with the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company for the transfer of certain works belonging to the Dominion on the line of the proposed canal.

* * *

TRURO AND PICTOU RAILWAY

A resolution was passed to authorize the Government to negotiate for the transfer of the railway from Truro to Pictou to some authorized company on condition that such company will extend the said railway from New Glasgow or Pictou to the Gut of Canso or some other place in Cape Breton within a specified time.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he desired to have this road extended to Louisbourg, which he believed to be the proper railway and ocean terminus, and he should keep this idea steadily in view.

* * *

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the second reading of the bill to provide for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, remarking that as he had discussed the principles of the Bill at length when moving the House into Committee on the resolutions, he did not propose to add at the present time to the remarks he then made but would reserve anything which he might have to say further until he replied to whatever might be said by hon. gentlemen opposite.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he had no doubt the House would regret that a measure of such great importance had not been placed before the House at an earlier period of the session. However much they might differ as to the mode in which this railway should be constructed, he thought they would agree that this was a measure of greater importance than any which had ever been brought before this House, and one upon which depended the life or death of Canada.

When the question of the union of British Columbia with the Dominion came to be seriously considered by the late Government, it was felt that it would be unproductive of the great results which were anticipated without the construction of the great trunk line which they were now considering. The Government having made a certain agreement with British Columbia, the matter received the attention of the Government and Parliament, and the *Journals* showed that upon the decision there was very great unanimity, a grant of land and money having been agreed upon as the mode by which capitalists would be induced to take an interest in the work. Parliament gave the Government the authority to take a grant of 40,000,000 acres of land and $50,000,000. Proposals were made by the leading financiers of both principal cities of the Dominion, and a keen competition was entered into between them.

He disclaimed all intention of rousing party feeling, but he asserted boldly that the scheme was defeated by a combination of public men in and out of Canada. He was surprised at the assertion of the leader of the Government that the means taken to complete the undertaking were perfectly inadequate, while at the time the proposal was first made, he and his supporters held that the grants of land and money were enormous and too great. He granted that the engagement to build the railway was a gigantic undertaking, but it was considerably modified by the fact that the House of Commons resolved that no increase of taxation should result from its building.

He quoted from the votes and proceedings of the House on the 11th April, 1871, in which it was resolved that the railway should be built by private enterprise, aided by grants of land and money, this being one of the Terms of Union.

This resolution was in the hands of the people of British Columbia when the Address to the Queen was passed by the House, and indeed was the interpretation clause of the Terms of Union.

Mr. De COSMOS denied it.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER asserted that not only was such the case, but it obtained the unanimous consent of the House. The present Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) was not content with the embodiment of this resolution in the *Journals of the House*; but he and his colleagues did all in their power to make the late Government build the road in no other way. He added the words, "In this way and not otherwise" to the terms of construction. He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) was thus borne out when he said this scheme of construction of the road commended itself to all the members of the House. But in time this failed. The House was aware that gentlemen in connection with the Northern Pacific Railway desired to exercise control over this road. The late Government felt bound to repel their advances, and from that had arisen the complications which had combined to prevent the road being built.

The Premier had said that the policy of his Government was the same as it was in Opposition, and here we had it that the road was to be built by private enterprise, aided by grants of land and money; but judge of his (Hon. Mr. Tupper's) surprise, when the hon. member for Lambton, who had vaulted into power, declared that it was his intention to place the whole work upon the Government and upon the country!

He (Hon. Mr. Tupper) here read from Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's speech in support of what he now said. Thus it would be seen, he

said, that the Premier now attempted to remodel the scheme. According to this speech that he read, it was a profitable scheme, so profitable that it would not do to let it go into the hands of a company. Assuredly the Minister of Finance could not have read this Lambton speech when he spoke of the enormous sums of money which would be thrown away upon it.

He would have supported that the Premier had been misreported, if he had not seen the telegram from the Premier a month later to the Hon. Mr. Walkem, Attorney General of British Columbia, in which he said our Pacific Railway policy is foreshadowed in my Lambton speech.

There was every appearance that the late Government's scheme would have been successful. It involved the formation of a great company with a hundred millions of capital, who would have exercised an immense influence on the settlement of the country. The late Government had every prospect of constructing the road without increasing the taxation of the country, relying as they did on the increased population and prosperity which this road would have brought in as it progressed to completion.

The scheme now submitted was a startling one, and, if the country had not been accustomed to startling measures, there was not a man in this House, or in this country, who would not have started back, astounded at the change of base. The Premier had said the land and money grants of the late Government's scheme were too great, and yet they, by this scheme, proposed to give fifty-four million of acres of land, and a bonus of $10,000 per mile on two thousand miles of land, and twenty-seven millions of dollars. The hon. gentleman was not only satisfied with building the road from Nipissing to the Pacific at the cost of the country, but he intended to take three million dollars to the lines which were interested in and adjoined this line. There were two hundred miles of railway from Pembroke to Nipissing, to each of which twelve thousand dollars was to be given. Then there was a guarantee of four per cent, to be given on all the money which would be required to build this road. In his speech in introducing this measure which he (Hon. Mr. Tupper) must admit was one of great candour, he had said that the road must be built at the cost of the country. Now, what was the road going to cost? Let them take the easiest portion of the road—say the open prairie section of the road. The hon. Premier had told us that this most favourably situated road would cost us at least $48,000 per mile; but this was nothing to what the cost would be on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains. In the light of the figures which the hon. Premier had given it did not seem possible that the road could be built for less than $40,000 per mile, in addition to the land grant, but, taking the money grant, there would at the lowest be $20,000 per mile at four per cent. This would make an additional draw upon the country of fifty-four million dollars over and above the other bonus. This, however, was not all. The hon. gentleman had said with frankness and candour that the minimum cost would be $100,000,000.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I said that was the Chief Engineer's estimate.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said this estimate was in that case as much the more valuable. The Government, he held, could not construct the road at less than thirty-three per cent more than what it would cost a company to build it. The lowest estimate at which money could be got would be at six per cent interest, making an annual drain for the interest upon the country of six millions; but, in view of the discouraging financial statement which had been made, he did not think the money could be got at less than seven per cent.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: Yes. Then, according to Mr. Fleming's estimate, the working expense would cost eight millions of dollars per annum; but, say that the annual receipts would be two million, there would be six millions to be paid out for annual expense in addition to the six million for interest.

In his financial speech the hon. member for Lennox (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) had said that it was physically and morally impossible to build the road within the specified time, and thus even were a longer time taken than that specified, it could not be built for less than a hundred millions of dollars. He had said that the proportion of debt which would be laid upon the country for this work would be in the same ratio as seven and fifty million of a national debt upon the people of England. He had characterized the scheme as ludicrously absurd, and yet he and his colleagues now came to the House and asked them to assume this great responsibility. Assuming that the working expenditure would only amount to $5,000—the payments which would have to be made within the next twenty-five years would be over two hundred million dollars.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland): Have you read the recital?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said surely the hon. gentleman did not mean to say that this Bill was a farce; that it was intended simply to deceive the country. (*Hear, hear.*) The scheme of the late Government and this scheme were as different as light from dark. (*Hear, hear.*) The late Government proposed to give fifty million of acres, while this Government proposed to give fifty-four million. They proposed to give only $30,000,000, while this Government proposed a scheme which would involve an expenditure at the least of $84,000,000. The only liability which could fall upon the people under the former scheme was a million and a half a year, while now it could not be less than twelve millions. The expenditure under that scheme was known and definite; under this it was unknown and indefinite.

If the Government intended to shelter themselves under the recital this Bill was a delusion and a snare, and was not intended to bring about the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. As to the credit of the country, he said that the Government were going to endeavour to borrow money for the purposes of this great work, when they could not raise enough by three million for the ordinary purpose of the country. Under the scheme of the late Government millions of foreign capital would have been drawn into the country.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Why did it not come?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said it did not come because hon. gentlemen opposite had entered into an unpatriotic machination and from it a lust for power—(*Laughter*)—had trampled down the scheme of the late Government and ridden into power over the ruins of a Canadian Pacific Railway. The hon. gentleman knew that he could not obtain any more revenue from the great source of revenue—spirits—and whence then were twelve millions per annum to come? If this scheme were carried out, the time was not very far off when taxation would be resorted to which would be so insupportable that instead of immigration into this country there would be emigration from it. Where were we to find the money to pay this enormous debt, seeing that the Finance Minister had already touched the limit of taxation on spirits according to his own confession, and expended it in regard to tea and sugar, in his (Hon. Mr. Tupper's) estimation? A still more extraordinary proposition of the Bill was to expend three millions of money in subsidizing lines of railway in Ontario to go to Nipissing and three millions to come back to the mouth of French River.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Back to French River? The hon. gentleman had better go and learn geography. (*Hear, hear and laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said from French River to Nipigon was over 460 miles, and the water communication on those 460 miles would only be available for six months of the year and when this proposed line was complete it would only save 35 miles as compared to the distance over the same ground by existing lines, these lines beginning at Montreal, which he contended was the great centre of the country.

All the expenditure under the Bill would only establish a line available for six months in the year, any person who desired to get to the Northwest during the rest of the year, would have to go by St. Paul and Pembina, as at present. He contended that there was no necessity for building the Pembina branch, and the great defect of the scheme was that it threw the whole of our traffic on the American lines, 637 miles longer than a route at our own command, if only proper and statesmanlike means were taken to put the project in motion.

Sending our immigrants over the American railway would not only be a great additional expense, but it subjected those who were proceeding to settle in our great Northwest to the temptations which would be offered them at every wayside station to settle in the United States. We were spending a large amount of money for immigration purposes, and he asked if we were for the next twenty years to be satisfied sending our immigrants through the United States, 637 miles longer than the route which we might have through our own country.

By an expenditure of $2,280,000 more than that proposed for a line which was to be open only half the year, the Government could put a line at once right through from Montreal to Fort Garry. The scheme of the Government at present from Nipissing to Fort Garry would cost $33,040,000, while 460 miles would have to be travelled by water in the summer, and the journey during six months of the year would be round by St. Paul, Minnesota. If $2,600,000 were added for the branch from Pembina to Fort Garry, the cost would amount to $35,640,000. If the Government abandoned the subsidy to the road to Nipissing, the road from Nipissing to the mouth of French River, and the Pembina branch and built the road from Nipissing to Nipigon at once, as the Chief Engineer said they could do with little difficulty, they would get a shorter road through our own territory connecting Montreal with Fort Garry for $38,920,000, estimating the cost at the same rate as that upon which the other scheme was based. The distance saved by the line he indicated from Toronto would be 416 miles as compared to the line by St. Paul.

He contended that the proposal of the Government involved practically the abandonment of the Canadian Pacific, and he would take the liberty of asserting that no greater calamity could overtake this country than the acceptance of that proposal.

He was sorry that the hon. gentleman abandoned the scheme of the old Government and especially that he proposed to have four Companies. That which would be a profitable and good speculation for one Company would not be so for another, and the result would be that Companies would be found ready to construct the portion of the road most easily built, and the rest would be left on the hands of the Government.

He further objected to the scheme because there was no provision for keeping our railway from falling into the hands of the Americans, and possibly of the American Pacific Railway Co. which the late Administration were so careful to guard against; and he also took grave exception to the assumption of the expense of managing the lands owned by the private Companies and paying the Company the proceeds. He also thought the proposition for the building of the British Columbian portion was also open to objection on account of the time it would take to construct. At the rate of expenditure mentioned by the leader of the Government, either the road as a whole would never be built at all, or else it would be built at such a cost to the people of this country as would place our national debt at a figure proportionately as high as the debt of Great Britain or the United States, with a similar increase of taxation and public burdens of all kinds. He said that this measure was bound to be treated seriously and as intended to be carried out.

He believed everyone would agree with him that nothing had hitherto been submitted to this House which did not pale into insignificance before this. The country had rapidly grown into prosperity, and was now one of the lightest taxed countries in the world. If our resources were husbanded, Canada would be able to grapple with even such a great work as this, but he predicted that this Bill would cause us to lose our credit and to forfeit our resources and the people of this country would come to regret the day when a Government drunk with power had entered upon a scheme fraught with such serious consequences as this, which would lead, he believed, to inevitable ruin and destruction. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he was not surprised at the speech of the hon. gentleman. Indeed, it was moderate compared with some of his speeches. (*Hear, hear.*) He had given the House

some figures which were correct, but they were not his own. All his own were incorrect, as usual. (*Cheers.*) With the hon. gentleman millions were trifles, and facts were worse than trifles. (*Laughter.*)

The hon. gentleman had a great deal of moral courage—he would call it moral courage in order to be Parliamentary. He was a member of an Administration which saddled the country with an obligation to build those 2,700 miles of road, and not only 2,700 but 250 and yet another 65, in addition; and that, too, to be completed within ten years. They initiated a project to carry this into effect—an admirable project, the hon. gentleman called it, and one which commanded the attention, respect, and confidence of the greatest capitalists in this country. So great was the confidence and respect which it commanded at the hands of one capitalist that he had no hesitation in giving $360,000 to the hon. gentleman and his colleagues to carry the elections with. (*Loud cheers.*)

This was the only evidence of the confidence and respect with which it was received by Sir Hugh Allan, but it lost the respect and confidence of the country at the same time. The Government of that day sent a delegation to England, and within two weeks of the rising of Parliament, when he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) put the question to the Government, the hon. gentleman stated in reply that the delegates had met with the greatest success. He (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) complimented the hon. gentleman at the time on the statement. Was the statement true or was it not? Or did the hon. gentleman deliberately mislead the House? How was it that this combination, the conspiracy as the hon. gentleman called it, had not taken effect then? Everything that was to be charged against the Government had then been charged, yet the hon. gentleman told the House deliberately that the gentlemen of the delegation were meeting with the greatest success.

The hon. member for London (Mr. Walker) was Vice-President of that Company, and he would call upon him to witness tonight if they ever received a single offer. They knew they had not; but when they proposed $180,000,000 of bonds, sacrificing them for whatever they would bring in the market, what, he asked, would have been the ruin of the country with $180,000,000 of bonds, for which the Government would be practically responsible, floating in England?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER: Not a dollar.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No, because no one was so insane as to give the slightest countenance either to the scheme of the hon. gentleman or that which the Directors of the road were driven in desperation to adopt.

Why did the hon. gentleman and his colleagues engage in this scheme when British Columbia did not ask it? (*Hear, hear.*) British Columbia proposed reasonable terms, which would have been agreed to unanimously, but the Government said, "You do not ask half enough. Spend a million a year after the surveys are completed to make a road. We will do far more; we will make a road from water to water from end to end of this country, and to Esquimalt, 250 miles farther than we are bound to go—we'll do it all within ten years, and will bind ourselves by a solemn declaration of Parliament that this shall be accomplished." Were ever heard such a set of a lunatics commanding a majority in any Parliament? (*Cheers.*) It was a piece of madness; it was a piece of deliberate treason to the country. They were entering into obligations which they knew they could not possibly implement; and after they had failed to implement these obligations, after they failed, even with Sir Hugh Allan's $360,000 to aid them, to obtain the confidence of the country, they broke down, the delegation failed, the Company declined to carry out the obligations entered into between themselves and the Government, and then the Ministry resigned in order to escape from the dilemma into which they had brought themselves and the country.

Under these circumstances he was called upon to form an Administration with the obligations of the hon. gentleman and his colleagues staring him in the face. Was he to say to everyone involved in these obligations that they would cast them all to the winds?

The hon. gentleman had quoted what had suited him from his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) speech at Sarnia. What he said on that occasion was that it was a physical impossibility to carry out this bargain, but they proposed to utilize the vast stretches of water communication they had on the continent; they would endeavour as soon as possible to build the railway from these waters to the Pacific, and then eastward. They could take their own time; they could go by water down the vast plains of the interior, and by the American route to Fort Garry in the meantime. They all remembered the storm which the hon. gentleman and his friends raised over those words. He was not ashamed of them, and he repeated them now. He said it was a sensible course to build that short road to the American system of railways, and so obtain access to the country by a road perfectly intelligible to every one, and one that even one who had travelled in the United States in other parts could appreciate.

They had never heard in former years of the dreadful crime of travelling from Island Pond to Portland. He had never heard of the hon. gentleman himself travelling over the Metopediac Road on horseback or in a sleigh rather than commit the atrocity of travelling in the United States. The Government had prepared a complete plan, to be carried out in such portions as Parliament might decide upon from time to time. He would repeat now that the Government did not intend to touch the road from Nipissing to Nipigon, or from Nipigon to Fort Garry, if they could obtain water communication to help them, until our means and resources were such as would enable them to commence and carry out the plan. (*Cheers.*)

They had stated in this Bill that while this legal obligation stared them in the face, they had the moral obligation also to face that the taxes of the country should not be increased for this purpose; and they provided that having already increased the taxation to meet the coming obligations from this and other public works, the carrying out of the scheme involved in this Bill must depend upon the means at their disposal without increasing the taxation of the country. (*Cheers.*) That proposal would, he believed, command the confidence of this House and of the country. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. gentlemen charged the Government in one breath with bringing in a scheme to ruin the country with taxation, and in the next breath with placing the Bill before the country as a sham not intended to be carried out. He alleged neither was correct. The Government would carry out this scheme as our means and resources enabled them to carry it out, and would utilize other means which were at their disposal to obtain the desired communication for the present. The Government were bound at once to look to the obligations which the country had incurred, and on the other hand to the obligation, which all had assented to from British Columbia and elsewhere, that the taxation of the country should not be increased for that purpose.

Mr. De COSMOS: No, no.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said his hon. friend said "No," but if he imagined they were to plunge irredeemably into debt in order to carry out a mad and impossible scheme he was greatly mistaken. (*Loud cheers.*) They would do their best to carry out that obligation in the spirit; to carry it out in its letter he had always avowed to be impossible. The hon. gentleman had given them some figures. He did not know where he got his mileage; he hoped all the mileage was not calculated on the same system. (*Laughter.*)

He had given the hon. gentleman all of the Chief Engineer's figures which he had himself. He had found that there were several lines laid down by the engineer from Bute Inlet to Fort Edmonton, and of course he took the longest of them. The only wonder was that he did not add two cyphers to it. (*Laughter.*) The longest distance was 2,550 miles, which at $10,000 per mile amounted to $25,590,000. The Pembina branch was 65 miles long, representing $650,000; the Nipissing branch was 85 miles or $850,000; and the branches to be subsidized certainly not more than 150 miles, which at $12,000 amounted to $1,800 000, making a total of $28,890,000 including subsidies—an amount which was $1,100,000 less than that which the hon. gentleman and his Government proposed to give to their Company. As to the four per cent guarantee, the hon. gentleman said that any good company could be got to build the road for the $30,000,000. If so, here was the road put up to public competition—(*Hear, hear*)—and they had the chance of even doing it for less than $30,000,000. They had only to say they did not want any guarantee, and the thing was done. (*Hear, hear.*) If the amount offered by the Government was enough the Companies would take it; if not, they would ask more under the guarantee.

He hated shams, and he had no hesitation in saying he never did believe, and did not now believe, that that road could be built through any such wilderness for any such money. They proposed to do nothing by this Bill without the authority of Parliament directing them. (*Hear, hear.*) What did they move time after time when on the other side of the House, and when the hon. gentlemen were sitting on this side?

They moved that the plans and contracts should be submitted to Parliament and approved of—(*Hear, hear*)—and that, too, before a single dollar would be expended upon the work. The hon. gentleman said they only provided for certain contracts being submitted, but he must have failed to read the first clause of the Bill or he could not have made the assertion.

The Government proposed to ask a vote of the House for every cent of money before it was expended, while their predecessors took the whole $30,000,000 at one vote, setting Parliament and the people at defiance; and, as the sequel proved, entering upon a gigantic electioneering swindle for the purpose of obtaining control over the electoral body. They did obtain it for a time, and obtained a purchased Parliament against which the present Government and their supporters had to fight in 1872-1873; but the nemesis came, and the hon. gentleman and his colleagues were driven, not only from office, but almost from public life. And yet these were the men who stood up now and accused the Government of endeavouring to ruin the country, when they submitted all their measure to Parliament, plainly and frankly, as hon. gentlemen admitted—not the measures they had carried out, but those they proposed to carry out.

But the hon. gentleman said, "Yes, you propose to put this down on paper, but you are merely mocking the country." On the contrary, they proposed to do everything they promised and they promised nothing they were not prepared to carry out. (*Cheers.*) When they failed to do that, they would cease to sit upon the Treasury bench. (*Cheers.*) He could say for himself, and he felt assured he could also say for every one of his colleagues, that they would not retain office a minute longer than they were enabled to fulfil the promises made and engagements entered into at their elections. (*Cheers.*) He would not deal with the hon. gentleman's remarks regarding the expenditure of money in Ontario. He believed Ontario had acted her part with sufficient patriotism upon all occasions, and he also believed that all the Provinces were represented in this House at the present time by gentlemen who set at defiance and laughed to scorn the miserable attempts of the hon. gentleman to stir up sectional prejudices. (*Cheers.*)

They had the satisfaction of knowing that after all the hon. gentleman's attempts to do so he was unable to lead a single solitary soul from his own Province, while the Government commanded a majority from every Province in the Dominion. Such, then, were the principles which the Government had endeavoured to put in practice by the Bill before the House, and such, as far as the resources of the country would permit, and common sense and honesty dictated, were the plans by which they proposed to accomplish the ends which hon. gentlemen opposite endeavoured to accomplish but failed.

He knew those plans would meet with the hearty concurrence of the House, bound as they were to proceed with the work only to such an extent as the means of the Dominion afforded, but fulfilling to the best of their ability the spirit if not the letter of their obligations. (*Loud and prolonged cheering.*)

Mr. WHITE (Hastings East) believed, and he thought the country believed, that one Party throwing up to the other its political sins would never build a road. It was now for the Government to show they intended to build the road on honest, sound, and practical principles. If the road had been built on the

principles laid down by the late Government, he believed it would have been successfully completed. He would say that the present bill laid before Parliament was not a practical measure. The Premier had styled the bonds of the late Government as bogus bonds. How could they be bogus, the country being responsible? Assuredly, if the country's bonds could not be negotiated by the late Ministry, the present Finance Minister (Hon. Mr. Cartwright) could do no better. We were in duty bound to the Dominion of Canada to endeavour to open and settle up our western lands, which would bring money into the Treasury of the country. We had heard of the beautiful country of British Columbia, which of course it was our duty to do all we could to develop.

His advice to the Premier (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) would be to bury the late Ministry and their sins with them, not to keep up the memory of offenses of the past, but to set himself to work to promote the interests of the country. He would support the Ministry in every good measure, but he did not think that this was a good one. He hoped, however, it would prove to be so, and, while the road was built, that there would not be an oppressive burden on the people. He believed, too, this mixed-up railway to be an impracticable scheme, but hoped his impressions would prove incorrect.

Mr. JONES (Halifax) was one who had done something towards bringing British Columbia into the Union, and he believed the proposal now before the House to be in perfect accordance with the views of the Opposition of that day. The Government had given to British Columbia far more than ever she desired, and had burdened the country with works and with taxes which would be at most insupportable. The proposal of the present First Minister was then to build the road as soon as the finances of the country would permit, as was to be seen from the resolution offered by that gentleman several years ago. When he saw in the bill brought before the House the same principles advanced, he felt that the Premier had acted patriotically, and believed it would so be considered by the House, and by the country.

It little became the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), who had done so much to overburden the country, and who had come from his own Province altogether so unsupported, to criticize the measure which he had necessitated. The measure of the late Government was a fraud and a sham, and a reckless extravagance which the country had declined to sanction. The hon. member for Cumberland knew that the moment the country came to understand that they had scandalized the country and had sold the railway to Sir Hugh Allan, they would decline to support them, but would hurl them from power. It was known that the Company had never obtained from the English financiers any measure of success, much less sufficient support to secure the success of the road.

He would say that if the people of British Columbia think this House would justify the imposition of heavy financial obligations upon the country which would impair its credit, they were very much mistaken and it would not be strong enough to sustain the onus. British Columbia should understand this at the outset. They had to sink or swim with us, and it was necessary that taxation should be kept down, if we must keep up our credit. It was to the interest of British Columbia as well as ourselves that time should be allowed, and that our credit should not be jeopardized. They had to trust in Canada's good faith, and when the time came, no matter what Government was in power, the road would be built. He desired to see all that could be done, done at once.

While Canada deprecated the extravagance and the want of wisdom of the late Government's arrangement, she would keep to it; but would not rush madly into reckless expenditures. He believed the feeling of the country was that we must move slowly, and could not go further than had been indicated in the speech by the First Minister.

Mr. De COSMOS said he believed in the utterance of hon. Sir John Macdonald in his remarks on the Speech from the Throne, when he said that this was a subject which should be approached from a non-partisan point of view; but he was amazed at the manner in which the hon. member for Cumberland had approached the subject in order to attempt to gain a political triumph, and in order perhaps to secure the paltry consideration on his side of $7,000 per year.

He condemned the hon. member for Cumberland and the Finance Minister for laying down the principle that a resolution passed by this House subsequent to the passage of the Act of union between British Columbia and Canada could alter the Terms of Union. He traced up the history of the union movement. Neither the people of British Columbia nor any of their representatives ever consented to any proposition that this work was to be undertaken by a private Company or by any persons other than the Dominion Government.

Mr. BOWELL: But the present Governor of British Columbia was here.

Mr. De COSMOS: In the negotiations with Lieutenant-Governor Trutch nothing of this kind had ever been mentioned, nor indeed was he empowered to change one iota of the Terms of Union. His instructions upon the subject were lying now before him. British Columbia was perfectly willing that the Government should conduct this railway as they pleased; but they (the British Columbians) had nothing to do with any other parties than the Government. An impression had gone abroad that British Columbia was a great burden on the Dominion. Now there was no Province which paid so much per head to the revenue as British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: But there are so few heads.

Mr. De COSMOS said they consumed more per head than the other people of the Dominion. In his Budget speech the Finance Minister had commented on the fact that the expenditure for the Province exceeded its revenue by $200,000. The fact was the revenue last year was $375,918, and the expenditure $562,000. Manitoba, in the same period, yielded a revenue of $47,000 with an expenditure of $774,854.

British Columbia was giving something in return for this railway. She was giving her public lands, and had cast in her lot with the Dominion. There was no danger of secession. British Columbia would agitate for her rights in a constitutional manner, and, if she failed to obtain her rights, he and his colleagues would endeavour

to expel the defaulting Government and place in power a Government which would do its duty and keep up to its agreements. After all the promises which the late Government had made—and to keep up to which had only gone through the sham of driving in a few stakes—the people of British Columbia had acted up to their engagements, and had reserved their land for this road.

He went on to advocate the port of Esquimalt as the western terminus of the road, and then proceeded to give an estimate of the number of inhabitants to be found in the neighbourhood of the Northern Pacific Railway, which was only about a million. This road was about 2,000 miles in length. Surely then the million and a half of people in Canada from Nipissing to British Columbia who at present existed could support a road three thousand miles in length.

It was easy, too, for us to enter with our neighbours into a generous rivalry for the trade of the continent, as well as for that of Asia. During 1873 there had come across the Central Pacific Railroad over a million tons of freight, and with the development of the agricultural and mineral resources of British Columbia, there would be very soon an exhibit even greater than this. He considered the present Government scheme to be far better than that of the late Government. He took it that the road would be about 3,000 miles in length, which, at 20,000 acres a mile, sold, as he believed it could be, if situated near Fort Edmonton, at $2.50 an acre, gave over $150,000,000, which, added to the $30,000,000 in cash, would give $180,000,000 in all. This was to be a pioneer railway, and he did not believe in building upon the most expensive scale. He considered that the bridges need not be of stone or of iron, but should be made of trestle work. The railway need not cost on the whole more than $30,000 per mile, and could thus be built for $90,000,000, a gain to a private Company, if it undertook the work, of $60,000,000.

He eulogised the past enterprise of Canada, but said if they were unprepared to advance westward, it was time for them to hand over their country to a people who would be prepared to discharge properly the duties which devolved upon them. In this new country we wanted bold men, prepared to fight matters out, whether they won or lost. We wanted men such as Hon. Sir Francis Hincks, a gentleman who, though in some matters he had failed, all the people admired for his pluck. The Intercolonial Railway might have been an expensive undertaking, but he would like to know whether anyone felt the worse for it, or whether any man was short of a pipe of tobacco on account of it. So would it be with the Pacific Railway. The road would be built, and the country would never miss the paltry $90,000,000 which it would cost, or find that they used a pound of tea or ate a morsel of bread the less on account of it.

He stood here prepared to support the Premier on a good railway scheme, irrespective of whether he was a British Columbian, or a member of any other Province. Twelve hundred miles of railway west of Fort Garry meant 240,000 farms of a thousand acres each, which at five persons for each family, meant a million two hundred thousand people settling in the district. He produced a calculation as to the expenditure of this people, making it appear that such a railway ought to be in a very short time a most profitable enterprise. He deprecated the fact of this question having been made one of a political character. As to the rapidity with which the road could be built, he held that it might easily be completed in the seven years yet left to complete the arrangements, and if the people here would not believe him he could point out to them over ten miles of road which had been graded and ironed in a single day.

British Columbia did not ask Canada to do an impossible thing. She was a portion of the Dominion; her interests were those of Canada; and she would exact nothing that the resources of the Dominion would not warrant. All she said was, "Do your best, and make no shams in the same way that the late Government have done." As a Canadian he should be ashamed to think that this work was being prosecuted as a matter of necessity on account of a bargain made. It was a national work, and one which should have required no such arrangement to ensure its completion. It was required by the Eastern Provinces and by those of the West.

The section from Montreal to Fort Garry could be built for thirty-six millions. It would immediately open up a traffic which would yield an income to cover interest and pay running expenses. A pioneer road pushed through rapidly could be constructed under two years to Fort Garry, and in four years we might expect to see the whole road built.

He advocated the Bute Inlet route as the one best calculated to serve the interests of the whole Province. He would ask the Ministry in what way they intended to vindicate their good faith. British Columbia had a good case, which should be held to be such by the Government, and, unless they used all the exertions in their power to construct the road according to the Terms of Union, they would be doing British Columbia a very great injustice.

So far as he knew, British Columbia did not object to the Government scheme for the utilization of waterways, although they saw no reason why the whole work could not be gone on with at once and as rapidly as practicable. He did not see why the construction of the road could not be commenced at once in British Columbia as well as in Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland): At what point?

Mr. De COSMOS said he believed the point where the railway should be commenced in British Columbia was Bute Inlet, in order to connect with the waggon road.

He believed the present Government, as well as the late one, desired to build the road, though the late Government had, he must confess, more advanced views on the question than those now in power. He believed that on consideration of this measure, when it went into Committee, it would be found advisable, in order to make the road a public work, to construct it on a three and half feet gauge which would serve the country for a quarter of a century to come.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (New Westminster) condemned the conduct of the hon. member for Victoria in endeavouring to prejudice the House and the Government in favour of the Fraser River route, and said it was equally unfair to endeavour to prejudice the House against the plan proposed by the Government for

building the railway. He had intended to say a few words on the question, but preferred not to do so on this occasion in view of the fact that the hon. member had occupied the attention of the House for such an extended time.

Mr. THOMPSON (Cariboo) said that, though he approved a great deal of this measure, there were not what he considered the necessary safeguards attached to it. There was nothing in the bill to say when the road should be commenced, and when it should be completed. It was true that it was to be built as soon as possible; but when was that? The word was capable of all kinds of constructions. As to the physical impossibilities of the road, he denied that such things existed. There might be pecuniary impossibilities. To prove that the road could be built they had only to look at one section of the Central Pacific Railroad of 1,800 miles, from Omaha to Sacramento, which had been built in three years.

He complained that the surveys had not been pushed on as they should have been, very much time having been wasted in starting them. There was nothing to have prevented their commencement on the lst March. There was another matter which would delay the survey, and that was that by the time the surveyors arrived in British Columbia all the men would have left the Province, attracted by the prospects the new gold mines offered. Thus would another summer be wasted. He advised the pushing on the road without delay from the Pacific coast; but he would say that, no matter what was done on Vancouver Island, it would be of no benefit to the people on the mainland.

He went on to speak of the agricultural resources of the Province, which were almost altogether undeveloped on account of the want of a market. Now, on this account there were numbers who advocated annexation to the United States on the ground that they had been deceived by Canada. He deprecated this feeling; but he must say that he could not altogether blame them under the circumstances. It had been said that the grades of the Canadian Pacific Railway were exceedingly steep; but he assured the House they were nothing to those of the Central and Northern Pacific Railways. He did not think the spending of the million and a half of dollars which the Premier had promised to spend this year was at all commensurate with the work to be done. He trusted that the work would be prosecuted, and that the road would be built without any unnecessary delay.

Mr. BUNSTER regretted the feeling which seemed to pervade this House in regard to British Columbia. British Columbia was not understood, and had not been fairly treated. When Canadians came to know British Columbia they would feel proud of her, and he was sure the British Columbians would gladly pay the expenses of a visit of the House to that Province in order that they might get acquainted with her. Esquimalt must be the terminus of the road, and he had no doubt the Premier knew it from information which he had already received.

He proceeded to speak of the climate, etc., of the Province. British Columbia, he said, had six days and nine hours the advantage over any route for the carrying trade of Europe and Asia, which was a great thing in its favour. It was said the Central Pacific would not pay; but he was credibly informed that it now paid. The road had to be built, and the sooner it was done the better. He spoke of encouraging immigration to Canada. The proper way to encourage it was to open up the country. We had many advantages over the United States. We could produce a better class of cereals, as well as other crops; then why should the population of the United States be forty million, while ours was only four? It was because we were not enterprising. The Americans did not build railways for the sake of the dividends they might receive. They said the railways opened up the country, and thus improved the general commerce of the country.

He was amazed at the opposition of the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) to this scheme. He was accustomed to doing nothing but send a cargo of codfish to Boston, and could not see that, by the opening of this road, the market for his codfish would be increased.

All that we wanted was this road to make this country great, as it should be; without it, instead of having immigration, we should have emigration. British Columbia was prepared to pay her share of the expense of this road, and he could not understand how it was that those who had petitioned for better terms for their own Provinces should be so narrow minded as to oppose the facilities which the whole country required. He hoped now the Premier would fulfil his pledge, and carry out the Terms of Union.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was declared lost, and the bill was read a second time.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that the bill be referred at once to a Committee of the Whole, **Mr. LAURIER** in the chair.

The first and second clauses were carried. On the third clause being put,

Mr. De COSMOS objected to the motion, on the ground that there were members who desired to express themselves on this measure. He considered it unfair to push this bill through in this way, without giving hon. members an opportunity of expressing themselves. He should use every means in his power to prevent this taking away of the rights of the members of the House. He had to propose an amendment to the first clause.

The SPEAKER informed the hon. gentleman that the first clause had been adopted.

Mr. De COSMOS said it seemed to him, from his experience of several sessions, that it was customary to force through bills irrespective of the views of hon. members. He insisted on Esquimalt being declared the terminus of the road.

The third clause was adopted.

Mr. WALKER, in reference to the remarks of the member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper), desired to reiterate a distinct and emphatic denial to the statement that the railway men of the United States and the Northern Pacific had had a hand in opposing this

railway. If he were incorrect, it was for the hon. member for Argenteuil (Hon. Mr. Abbott) to deny it. Further, there was no collusion between them and the members of the present Government.

It had been claimed that the scheme of the late Government had been ample to build the road. He must confess he believed it to have been sufficient, if circumstances had not intervened. The first of these was the opposition of the Grand Trunk people, the strongest combination in the world, whose case was strong on account of Sir Hugh Allan's efforts to establish rival lines. An arrangement was offered, but the Grand Trunk would not accept it, owing to the fact that they could not hold Sir Hugh Allan to his bargain.

After the railway scandal, it became impossible to float the road successfully. What followed from this? The four per cent guarantee, which was not granted by the bill, became necessary, owing to the discredit which had been thrown on the railway by the discreditable action of the late Government. Had it not been for their political sins which were sufficient to kill the railway negotiation, the Government would not have been compelled to make this additional grant of four per cent for twenty-five years.

The hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) had criticised the subsidies to the branches. It stood to reason that there must be some sort of connection in order to commence the road. He denied that the late Company had ever intended to issue over a hundred and thirty millions of bonds. That was a large amount, but would not have been necessitated had it not been for the depreciation of the bonds on their face value. He had faith in the present scheme, and trusted ere long it would be carried out to a completion. He concluded by expressing his belief in the mixed water and railway project.

Mr. THOMSON (Welland) said that a bad workman always complained of his tools, and on the same principle the hon. member for London had complained of the late Government for what had been the result of his own incapacity. He thought that it was hardly in place for the member for London to speak as he had done.

After further remarks by **Messrs. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette), De COSMOS, SMITH (Selkirk)** and **BUNSTER**,

The section was carried.

Clauses 4 to 12, inclusive, were carried. On clause 13,

Mr. KIRKPATRICK urged that the contract for the Nipissing branch should be subject to the approval of Parliament.

The clause passed, as did also clauses 14, 15, and 16. On clause 17,

Mr. BUNSTER moved an amendment that the construction of one railway on the mainland of British Columbia should be commenced within one year from the passage of this Act, and that not less than one-tenth of the whole work of construction in that Province should be carried out each year.

Lost.

The remaining clauses were then adopted.

The Bill was reported without amendment.

The third reading was fixed for tomorrow.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Private Bills were advanced a stage:—

To amend the Act of Incorporation of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Loan and Savings Society.—**Mr. MOSS**.

To amend the Act incorporating the Western Assurance Company, and other Acts affecting the same; and to extend the powers of the said Company.—**Mr. O'DONOHOE**.

To incorporate the International Express Company.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To incorporate the Colonial Building and Investment Association.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To incorporate the Lumber Exchange of the city of St. John, New Brunswick.—**Mr. De VEBER**.

To incorporate the Great North West Railway Company.—**Mr. O'DONOHOE**.

To amend Act 27 Vic., Cap. 49, incorporating the Lower Canada Investment and Agency Company (Limited).—**Hon. Mr. ABBOTT**.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at 2.50 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 20, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PRIVILEGE

Mr. MACKAY rose to a question of privilege. Something had appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* as to the doings of the Committee appointed to consider the most direct route to Europe. The statement in that paper, so far as he was concerned, was utterly untrue, without any foundation—in fact, a gross slander. He did not think it necessary to say any more, but considered it due to himself to make this statement.

* * *

STANDING ORDERS

Mr. RYMAL presented the 16th report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down copies of all accounts passed and appointments made by the Council for the Northwest Territories, and all recommendations by them to the Dominion Government in reference to Indian treaties and Indian matters in the Northwest.

* * *

DAWSON ROAD

Mr. STEPHENSON enquired whether the Government were in possession of information respecting immigrants having been refused passage on the boats of the Collingwood and Lake Superior Line, although having tickets to Fort Garry issued by the present lessees of the Government route to Fort Garry; what was the amount of the subsidy paid per annum to the said lessees; for what period was the lease drawn and what was the security given for the faithful performance of the service.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government was not in possession of any information of that kind. The lessees were to receive $75,000 per annum for maintaining the road; the lease was drawn for one year or more. The security given was security of a personal kind—the names of parties whom the Government considered to be sufficient—and they had also the security of their own constant inspection of the road.

Complaints had been made by the boats last year that passengers going to Thunder Bay on business had contrived fraudulently to obtain tickets as for immigrants going to Manitoba, and the boats had on several occasions refused to recognize those tickets. The Government did not expect them to do otherwise, as they carried immigrants at a much lower rate than the ordinary fare. The latter was, he believed, $9, while the boats were bound to carry Government immigrants for $4 or $5.

* * *

QUEBEC CULLING OFFICE

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South), in moving concurrence in the report of the Committee on the state of the Quebec Office for culling and measuring wood, said it had been anticipated that the Government might raise some objection to the report, but it was understood that no legislation on the subject could be moved by any member of the Committee. The Committee considered that the office should be self-sustaining, that the number of cullers should be reduced, and that the supervisor should be directly responsible, without interference by the Government.

He knew that the report was open to objection on the ground that the Committee had exceeded their powers, but he hoped that the point would not be raised. Reform in this office was necessary, and could be best accomplished by adopting the suggestions of the Committee.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought the report was a fair compromise of all the opinions on the subject. He hoped the Government would take some action in the matter next session.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the Government, while agreeing with some of the commendations of the Committee, could not agree to concurrence in the report at this time. It was not the Government's intention to increase the number of square timber cullers. The Government would look into the matter during the recess and take action at an early day.

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) was gratified that the Minister of Inland Revenue had promised to take action in the matter. He was also glad that provision would be made for a superannuation fund for retired cullers.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the discussion was out of order, as in England the practice of moving concurrence in the reports of Select Committees had entirely fallen into desuetude. If the report was in order it should be moved in Committee of the Whole, and considered clause by clause.

After some discussion,

Mr. CURRIER said he was glad to hear that the Government were going to take some steps in the matter.

The SPEAKER said the practice of moving concurrence in reports of Committees was manifestly inconvenient, though he was not now prepared to rule the motion out of order.

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South) then withdrew the motion.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Senate announcing that they had passed certain Bills.

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AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

Mr. ORTON moved concurrence in the second report of the Select Committee on Agricultural Interests. He alleged that free trade ideas were preached principally by gentlemen who had been educated in England, and believed that the farmers of this country desired to have their interests protected.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE pointed out that the report embodied the views of another Committee. It was, therefore, clearly out of order.

The SPEAKER ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. ORTON tried to speak, but was interrupted by cries of "Chair", and ultimately resumed his seat amid loud laughter.

* * *

VERMONT CENTRAL RAILWAY

Mr. BÉCHARD moved for correspondence respecting the building of wharves by the Vermont Central Railway Company opposite the town of Saint-Jean, Quebec.—Carried.

Hon. Mr. DORION was not aware that there was any correspondence on this subject. If the river were obstructed, action would certainly be taken to remove the evil.

* * *

AN INVENTOR'S CLAIMS

Mr. BROUSE moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government and Mrs. Taggart, widow of the late Mr. Nathaniel Taggart, praying for an allowance for an invention of her late husband, who in the year 1844 invented the plan of constructing the solid timber lock gate now in use on the St. Lawrence Canals, together with all papers relating thereto.

In speaking to this motion, Mr. Brouse said that in 1844 there was employed by the contractor for the Welland and St. Lawrence Canal lock gates this man, who was a most ingenious mechanic, fond of making experiments and improvements upon his work. At this time he made a model for solid timber lock gates. His model he showed and explained to a number of persons; but it was not until 1849 that the gates were adopted by the Department, and they have since been found satisfactory.

Subsequent to the adoption of his plan by Mr. Keefer, Mr. Taggart frequently claimed that the gate was his invention, but unfortunately, owing to the expense, he did not succeed in obtaining a patent. Unfortunately he died in 1868, leaving his widow in very poor circumstances. About a year after this there appeared in a paper published in England, called *Engineering*, a letter in which it was claimed that the gate was the patent of Mr. Keefer prior and subsequent to the adoption of Mr. Taggart's gates. Mr. Taggart had written numerous times to Mr. Killaly and others, claiming the gate as his invention.

As he (Mr. Brouse) said before, Mrs. Taggart was a poor widow, and should have some consideration for the important service which her husband had rendered to the country. He therefore trusted that justice would be done to the inventor of the gate, even though it was tardy.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he found the facts to be as the last speaker had stated. No claim had, however, been made for the invention until some time after the death of Mr. Taggart. Unless evidence to the contrary was afforded, the position seemed to be that Mrs. Taggart was entitled to consideration. This the Government proposed to recognize by a payment proportionate to the value of the service performed. For his (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie's) part, he had no doubt that the heirs of Mr. Taggart were entitled to consideration.

The motion was withdrawn.

* * *

OTTAWA RIVER

Mr. WHITE (Renfrew North) moved for the instructions to Mr. Johnston for the survey of that portion of the Ottawa River between the foot of Paquette's Rapids and the head of Allumette Island. He said a telegram from the Minister of Public Works to his (Mr. White's) predecessor (Mr. J.L. Findlay), stating that a surveyor would be sent to survey this portion of the river, had been made use of during the late election in Renfrew North, and statements had been made that the carrying out of the work would depend upon the result of the election. He wished to find out if Mr. Johnston, when sent to survey the river, had been instructed to avoid examining the northern channel at this point.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said if the hon. gentleman had given him any intimation of the attack he intended to make on the Government he would have been prepared with conclusive evidence of the falsity of his charge. The hon. gentleman had insinuated that the survey was promised for political purposes. He could call on the hon. member for Pontiac (Mr. Wright) to say whether he (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) had not informed him and the late member for Renfrew (Mr. Findlay) the very week that he assumed office that he would order a survey, and that the issue must depend upon the result of that survey. He repudiated with scorn the hon. gentleman's imputations—(*Hear, hear*)—and informed him that no such action had been or ever would be taken in his office to produce political results. The Government could only comply with a very small portion of the address.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) could corroborate every word that had fallen from the First Minister. (*Hear, hear.*)

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PRINTING COMMITTEE

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved concurrence in the fifth report of the Joint Committee on Printing.—Carried.

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NAVIGATION OF THE SAINT JOHN RIVER

Mr. COSTIGAN presented the report of the Committee on the navigation of the River Saint John.

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PROMISSORY NOTES

Hon. Mr. DORION, in the absence of **Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)**, moved the House back into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of making a few verbal amendments in the Bill to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes.

The House accordingly went into Committee, **Mr. DELORME** in the chair.

The amendments were adopted and reported, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

* * *

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

Mr. MOSS moved the third reading of the Bill to make further provision for the management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. OLIVER moved in amendment that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole with instructions to amend the same such that all its provisions, with the exception of the power of issuing debentures, be applied to all permanent building societies with a paid-up capital of $40,000. He contended that the effect of the Bill, as it stood at present, would be practically to kill off such Societies in the rural districts, and this would be both unjust and unfair.

The members were then called in and the House divided, when the amendment was carried by 105 to 32. The result was received with loud cheers and laughter.

YEAS

Messrs.

Abbott	Appleby
Archibald	Baby
Bain	Barthe
Béchard	Bernier
Bertram	Biggar
Bain	Borden
Borron	Bourassa
Bowell	Bowman
Boyer	Brooks
Brown	Buell
Burk	Burpee (Sunbury)
Cameron (Huron South)	Cameron (Ontario South)
Caron	Casey
Cheval	Chisholm
Church	Cunningham (New Westminster)
Currier	Delorme
Desjardins	Donahue
Ferguson	Ferris
Fiset	Fleming
Fréchette	Galbraith
Gaudet	Gibson
Gillies	Gillmor
Gordon	Goudge
Hall	Harper
Harvey	Harwood
Higinbotham	Hurteau
Irving	Kerr
Kirk	Kirkpatrick
Laflamme	Langlois
Laurier	McCallum
Macdonald (Cornwall)	McDougall (Renfrew South)
McGregor	McKay
MacLennan	McLeod
McQuade	Mitchell
Monteith	Montplaisir
Mousseau	Norris
O'Donohoe	Oliver
Orton	Ouimet
Paterson	Perry
Pinsonneault	Pouliot
Pozer	Robitaille
Ross (Durham East)	Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Prince Edward)	Rouleau
Rymal	St-Jean
Scatcherd	Scriver
Shibley	Sinclair
Smith (Peel)	Stephenson
Stirton	Stuart
Taschereau	Thompson (Haldimand)
Tremblay	Trow
Walker	Wallace
White (Hastings East)	White (Renfrew North)
Willson-105	

NAYS

Messrs.

Blake	Burpee (St. John – City & County)
Cartwright	Casgrain
Cockburn	Coffin
De St-Georges	De Veber
Dorion	Dymond
Forbes	Fournier
Gill	Holton
Killam	Laird
Lajoie	Lantier
Macdonald (Glengarry)	Mackay
Mackenzie (Lambton)	MacKenzie (Montreal West)
Metcalfe	Mills
Moss	Oakes
Ross (Victoria)	Smith (Westmorland)
Snider	Thibaudeau
Wood (Hamilton)	Young–32

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and reported the amendment as adopted.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON hoped that before the Bill was read a third time the Government would indicate what their opinion of the Bill was in its greatly altered aspect. He suggested that the third reading should be left over till tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had supported the original Bill because it had been, as he knew, well considered in the Committee

on Banking and Commerce, and it would be necessary for the Government to consider what it was proper for them to advise the House to do in connection with the very important amendment that had been made.

Mr. BLAIN contended that the principle of the Bill had not been attacked, and he hoped the Administration would so consider it.

Mr. MILLS thought the Bill was beyond the jurisdiction of the House, holding that it was no more and no less than a Bill for the incorporation of a Society to hold real estate, which it might be the policy of the Local Legislatures to prevent. The Local Legislatures, in his opinion, were the proper places to discuss and pass measures of this description.

After some discussion the third reading was fixed for tomorrow.

It being six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

HURON AND TRENT VALLEY CANAL

Mr. HALL moved the third reading of the Bill incorporating the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company.

After a protest from **Mr. BLAIN** and a brief discussion thereon,

Mr. BLAIN moved the re-committal of the Bill in order to add a clause providing that the Bill should not interfere with the rights of any existing Company. He contended that the Huron and Ontario Ship Canal Company had the sole right to use the waters of Lake Simcoe. There was, he understood, a deputation of gentlemen coming down upon this question, and he, therefore, hoped the Government would not undertake the legislation until after these parties had been heard.

Mr. O'DONOHOE thought the Bill ought to stand over.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON protested against the prolongation of the argument, which would prevent other Private Bills being disposed of. There was not a single argument in favour of the hon. gentleman's proposal.

Mr. BLAIN claimed the Yeas and Nays to the members were called in, after which the amendment was declared lost on a division.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

An Act respecting the Albion Mines Savings Bank.—**Mr. CARMICHAEL**.

An Act to incorporate the St. John's Board of Trade, Province of Quebec.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Imperial Bank—**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**.

An Act to incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada.—**Mr. MacLENNAN**.

An Act to incorporate the Stadacona Fire and Life Insurance Company.— **Hon. Mr. CAUCHON**.

An Act to amend the Act Vic. 36, Cap. 106, incorporating the Canadian Investment and Guarantee Agency.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

An Act to incorporate the Dominion Agricultural Insurance Company.—**Mr. BLAIN**.

An Act to incorporate the Royal Canadian Chemical Fire Engine Company.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

An Act to incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada.—**Mr. MacLENNAN**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate a Company by the name of Le Crédit Foncier du Bas-Canada.—**Hon. Mr. DORION**.

An Act to incorporate the Alliance Assurance Association of Montreal.—**Mr. RYAN**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the British America Assurance Co. and other Acts affecting the same, to extend the power of the said Company.—**Hon. Mr. HOLTON**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Bank of Manitoba.—**Mr. SMITH (Selkirk)**.

An Act to incorporate the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway Company.—**Mr. MOSS**.

An Act to incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Company and to extend the powers of the Dominion Telegraph Company.—**Mr. MOSS**.

An Act to enable the Great Western Railway Company to further extend and improve its connections, and to authorize and confirm the issue of certain debenture stock.—**Mr. MOSS**.

An Act to extend the time limit for the paying in of subscriptions of stock in the Canada and New York Bridge and Tunnel Company.—**Mr. IRVING**.

An Act respecting the issue of bonds by the St. Francis and Mégantic International Railway Company.—**Mr. BROOKS**.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Quebec Frontier Railway Company.—**Mr. SCRIVER**.

An Act to authorize the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company to issue preferential mortgage debentures, and for other purposes.—**Mr. SCATCHERD**.

The following Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to incorporate the Exchange, Loan and Trust Company of Manitoba.—**Mr. SCHULTZ**.

An Act to incorporate the Rouge Boom Company.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

SECOND READINGS

Mr. MOSS moved the second reading of the Bill to authorize the Northern Railway of Canada to amalgamate with the Northern Extension Railway Company, and to consolidate the various Acts relating to the said Company.

Mr. BABY and **Mr. COOK** objected, as the Bill was not printed in French.

After some discussion, the objection was sustained by the Speaker.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said satisfactory arrangements were being made with the proprietors of the former road. If these were satisfactorily completed the Government would bring in a measure upon the subject.

* * *

RICHMOND HILL

On motion of **Mr. BLAIN**, the House went into Committee on the Bill to attach Richmond Hill to the West riding of York, **Mr. LANDERKIN** in the chair.

The Bill was adopted in Committee, reported, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

LIBEL

On the motion of **Mr. BROOKS**, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill respecting libel.

On the 6th clause,

Mr. BLAIN moved in amendment that the words be inserted that were omitted from the Imperial statutes after the words "public" on the twenty-second line, viz.:—"And the particular fact or facts by reason whereof it was for the public benefit that the said libels charged should be published."

Hon. Mr. DORION said he thought the Bill would be more conformable to the requirements of the case as it stood.

After a few words from Mr. Brooks,

The amendment was declared lost.

The Bill was then adopted clause by clause, and reported; the amendment concurred in, it was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

BOARDS OF TRADE

On the motion of **Mr. MOSS**, the House went into Committee on Hon. Mr. Blake's Bill to authorize the incorporation of Boards of Trade.

The Bill was agreed to clause by clause, reported, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

COMPULSORY VOTING

Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfew South) moved the second reading of the Bill to provide for compulsory voting at elections. He considered that a man was bound to cast his vote in a Parliamentary election but admitted that there were other duties of greater importance, and in consequence made the Bill as elastic as possible in respect of the reason which might excuse a man for absence. He thought the great cause of bribery and corruption was the necessity of inducing voters to go to the polls. He admitted that it would be unfair to make a man give testimony to the fact that he had voted under the system of voting by ballot, but he proposed only to make him give testimony as to his appearance at the poll. Taking into consideration the late period of the session, however, and the impossibility of doing the subject anything like justice, he consented to the discharge of the order.

The order was accordingly discharged, **Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South)** promising to renew the question early next session.

* * *

PORT WARDENS

On motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland),** the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—That it is expedient to provide for the appointment of port wardens at certain ports of the Dominion, such officers to be remunerated only by fees.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and concurred in.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) then introduced a Bill founded on the resolution, and it was read a first time.

* * *

THE ELECTION BILL

On the order for the third reading of the Bill respecting the election of members of the House of Commons,

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the re-committal of the Bill in order to make certain amendments, among them to provide that in the District of Chicoutimi and Saguenay, the elections should take place not less than eight days, nor more than fifteen days, after the proclamation; to provide that returning officers may establish more than one polling place for less than 200 voters where the district is a scattered one. Clause 40 was struck out, providing that no woman should vote. It was provided also that the attendance at election trials of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery was not necessary provided certified copies of the returns were produced.

The motion was carried and the House went into Committee, **Mr. LAURIER** in the chair.

It was provided that the Act should come into operation on the lst July next.

Some other amendments of an unimportant character were made, and the amendments were then reported.

Mr. BUNSTER said the polling places in British Columbia were principally hotels and he asked that that Province be excepted from

the operation of the clause prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors on election days.

Hon. Mr. DORION said it could not possibly be done. The law prohibiting the sale of liquor on election day had worked satisfactorily for thirty years, and could not be repealed. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. FLESHER thought the voter who exposed his ballot should be punished as well as those who induced him to do so. He was also of opinion that the oaths of the persons who had authorized the signatures of voters to a nomination paper might be taken before a Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner, as well as before the Returning Officer. He considered that the ballot paper should be marked by the Returning Officer instead of by the Deputy Returning Officers.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the Bill at present was as nearly as possible what the English ballot Bill was when it left the House of Commons and went to the House of Lords. He believed it would prove to be efficient.

The amendments were then concurred in, and the Bill was read a third time.

On the motion that the Bill do pass,

Mr. BOWELL moved that the Bill do not pass, but that it be referred back to Committee for the purpose of inserting a clause to restore a property qualification for members of this House.

After some discussion as to whether the motion was in order at this stage, the amendment was lost on a division.

The Bill then passed amid loud cheers.

* * *

INSPECTION OF STAPLE ARTICLES OF PRODUCE

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. FOURNIER**, the House went into Committee on the Bill to amend and consolidate and extend to the whole Dominion of Canada the laws respecting the inspection of certain staple articles of Canadian produce.

On clause 63,

Mr. CHURCH objected to the compulsory application of the provisions of the Bill to fish while it was not compulsory with regard to other articles of produce.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL supported the objection, and protested against the provision referred to, on behalf of the fishermen of Nova Scotia.

Mr. KILLAM said this question was already practically settled, and he thought the Bill was a very good one in its present shape.

Mr. KIRK said the law was really impracticable in its present form and would bear very hard upon a large portion of his constituents where there was an inspector appointed under the law and where its provisions were in operation.

Mr. GILLMOR said the law would be perfectly ruinous to the fishing interests if they were compelled to have every barrel of fish that was brought into market inspected, and have to pay ten cents for it. Not only would it be unjust, but it would not and could not be carried out.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal West) thought these objections should have been made in the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the late Ministry had introduced a measure similar to this, which had not met with such opposition from the Nova Scotia members.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said the reply of the Minister of Inland Revenue was no answer to a sound argument. Let the Ministry defend their measures on their merits, if that were possible. Compulsory inspection was calculated to cripple the great industry of the Maritime Provinces. While making the inspection of corn, pork and flour voluntary, it would be unfair to make inspection of fish compulsory.

Mr. GILLMOR said that, though this had been the law, it had never been carried out in the Maritime Provinces. If it were not to be carried out, he would not object to its passage; but, if it were to be made operative he would, under any circumstances, vote against it.

Mr. MACKAY objected to the clause providing for the fine for the non-branding of barrels in addition to the confiscation of the fish.

Mr. FORBES moved, in amendment to the 63rd clause, that all after the word "the" be struck out, and the following substituted; "That nothing in this Act shall prevent any person from exporting or offering for sale in the Dominion of Canada fish, codfish, tongue, et cetera, contained in suitable packages; inspection shall be optional."

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said this would render the law altogether inoperative. The Committee on Banking and Commerce, after due deliberation, had sanctioned this measure. After giving it careful consideration last year, a similar measure had been almost unanimously passed, which had not yet had a fair trial. This law would tend to improve the qualities of fish, and, of course, increase its value.

Mr. FORBES said that, if the people of the Lower Provinces were to be unfairly taxed on all their interests, there would be good reason for them to believe that they had not been benefited by the much talked-of and much hoped-of new Ministry. This measure would give great dissatisfaction to the fishermen, who, of all classes, were least able to bear undue taxation. He hoped the compulsory clause would be struck out.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE favoured the compulsory inspection of fish, but believed the inspection of flour, of pork, and of butter should also be compulsory.

The amendment was put and lost: yeas, 28; nays, 46.

Mr. MACKAY moved in amendment that the words "It shall be forfeited" in the 55th line of section 63 be struck out and that the words "five dollars" in the last line be replaced by the words "one dollar".

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said it would be impossible to allow the fine to be reduced to one dollar and have no forfeiture. It might do to reduce the fine to one dollar if the forfeiture were retained, or to give up the right of forfeiture if the five dollars fine were retained.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the matter might be compromised by inserting a proviso to make the minimum fine $1 and the maximum $5.

The clause with this amendment was carried.

All the other clauses of the Bill were then passed; the Bill, with the amendments, was reported, the amendments concurred in, and the bill read a third time and passed.

* * *

PACIFIC RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the third reading of the Pacific Railway Bill.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK again took exception to the power taken by the Government to give out the contracts on that portion of the proposed road from Lake Nipissing to the Georgian Bay without the assent of Parliament. He moved in amendment that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole in order to amend clause 13 by adding the following words:—"Provided always that no contract for the construction of the said first branch, or any part thereof, shall be binding until it shall have been laid before the House of Commons for one month, without being disapproved of, unless sooner approved of by a resolution."

Hon. Mr. HOLTON commented on the change of base of the hon. member for Frontenac from what he took two years ago. He was then prepared to give the late Government unlimited power to enter into contracts; but now he was unprepared to allow this Government to enter into contracts for even a small section. The motion of the hon. member for Frontenac was undoubtedly a motion of want of confidence.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that since he had been in the Government he had let out contracts to the extent of $2,000,000 or $3,000,000, and $2,000,000 or $3,000,000 were at his control now without the necessity of coming to Parliament for approval. While he was quite willing to admit the doctrine advocated by the hon. gentleman he was not willing to accept his amendment.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL suggested to his hon. friend from Frontenac to drop his amendment, leaving the Government either the credit or the blame for the scheme over which they had so much power.

Mr. KIRKPATRICK said the remarks of the hon. member for Châteauguay applied with equal force to himself, who, at the time he had spoken of, had taken a course directly antagonistic to that he was now following. He thought it very singular that the Ministry had excepted the Nipissing branch from the surveillance of this House, it being the very worst section of the road.

The amendment was declared lost on a division.

Mr. BUNSTER then moved in amendment that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole for the purpose of adding the following words to clause 17: "The construction, however, of the Railway on the mainland of British Columbia shall be commenced within one year of the date of passage of this Act, and the minimum quantity of work done in each year from the date of commencement of construction shall not be less than one-tenth of the entire sum required for the whole work required to complete that section."

The members were called in, the House divided, and the amendment was lost: yeas, 5; nays, 77.

YEAS

Messrs.

Bunster	De Cosmos
Farrow	Jones (Leeds South)
Plumb–5	

NAYS

Messrs.

Archibald	Bain
Béchard	Bernier
Bertram	Biggar
Blake	Bourassa
Bowell	Buell
Burk	Burpee (St. John – City & County)
Caron	Cartwright
Casey	Cheval
Chisholm	Church
Cimon	Cockburn
Coffin	Costigan
De St-Georges	Dorion
Dymond	Fiset
Fleming	Forbes
Fournier	Fréchette
Galbraith	Gillies
Gillmor	Gordon
Goudge	Harper
Harvey	Higinbotham
Holton	Irving
Killam	Kirk
Kirkpatrick	Laird
Lajoie	Landerkin
McCallum	Macdonald (Cornwall)
McGregor	McIntyre
Mackay (Cape Breton)	McKay
Mackenzie (Lambton)	MacKenzie (Montreal West)
MacLennan	McLeod
Mills	Mitchell
Norris	Oakes
Oliver	Orton
Paterson	Perry
Ross (Durham East)	Ross (Middlesex West)
Ross (Prince Edward)	Ross (Victoria)
St-Jean	Stephenson
Stirton	Taschereau
Thompson (Haldimand)	Trow
Walker	White (Hastings East)
Wood (Hamilton)–77	

Mr. BUNSTER censured the members of the late Government, whose pet scheme this road was, for voting against its immediate prosecution. It seemed from this that the late Government had never

any intention of at once prosecuting this road, and it was simply a bait to induce British Columbia to come into the Union.

He would tell the late Minister of Marine (Hon. Mr. Mitchell) that probably before long a Pacific Railway would be started which would, at any rate, be stronger than the Left Centre which he represented.

He reflected severely on the treatment which British Columbia had received from Canada. While preferring the old flag, they had declined the tempting offer from the United States. This treatment was in fact a violation of the Terms of Union. He moved that the bill be referred back to Committee of the Whole to provide a substitute for clause 18 that the work should be commenced at Esquimalt this year, and that a sum of not less than a million and a half should be annually expended upon it in British Columbia, until the work is completed.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he thought these motions were impolitic and unnecessary, and deprecated any endeavour to embarrass the Government on this question.

Mr. WRIGHT (Pontiac) advocated the Nipissing branch of the road, and proceeded to speak of the great advantages which would be derived from a Pacific Railway.

Mr. De COSMOS asked that the First Minister state when he would commence the work. He also complained that the report of the Chief Engineer, Mr. Fleming, had not been brought down before the bill was passed.

Mr. PLUMB gave a number of figures regarding the Central Pacific road, contending that Canada could build her road without undue taxation, and that it would be profitable.

The amendment was lost, and the Bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

PROROGATION

Mr. PATERSON asked if, in view of the progress which had been made, the Government could give an intimation that the services of hon. members would be dispensed with on Friday night.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was quite impossible to say at present. They had a great deal of work on the paper yet.

The House adjourned at 3.l0 a.m.

* * *

NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West)—On Friday—Concurrence in the 6th and 7th reports of the Joint Committee of both Houses on Parliamentary Printing.

Mr. JETTÉ gives notice that he will move as follows: That this House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution: "That it is expedient to authorize the Rouge Boom Company to levy, enact, recover, and receive the following tolls on all saw-logs and timber which may pass through the booms of the said Co., that is to say, on each point saw-log not over sixteen feet in length, three cents; on each spruce, hemlock, or other saw-logs, not over sixteen feet in length, two cents; on each piece of square pine timber or board timber, ten cents; on each piece of planed tamarack, spruce, hemlock, cedar, or other timber, five cents."

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria)—Bill to amend and extend the provisions of the Militia Act as respecting Prince Edward Island, et cetera.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)—On Thursday next—Committee of the Whole on a future day to consider the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to extend to all such ports as the Governor in Council may see fit the Act 32-33, Vic., Cap. 40, and 33 Vic., Cap. 20, providing means by tonnage dues for improving the harbours and channels at such ports."

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 21, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

A number of petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

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REPORTS PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the report of the Committee on Exporting Laws.

Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South) presented the report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

RETURNS

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT presented the return to an Address asking for particulars of the expenses connected with the Royal Commission entrusted with the examination of the charges made by the Hon. L.S. Huntington against the late administration.

Several other returns were presented.

* * *

IMPROVEMENT OF HARBOURS

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) gave notice that tomorrow he would move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution—"That it is expedient to extend to all such ports as the Governor in Council may see fit, the Acts 32-33 Vic., Cap. 40, and 33 Vic., Cap. 20, providing means by tonnage dues for improving the harbours and channels of such ports."

* * *

NORTHERN RAILWAY OF CANADA

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE gave notice that he would tomorrow move the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a certain resolution respecting the Government lien on the Northern Railway of Canada, and the acceptance of a sum of five hundred thousand dollars for a certain part of the same, and a further sum of five hundred thousand dollars in bonds of the Company in lieu thereof.

* * *

PROROGATION

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that when the House adjourns on Friday it stands adjourned until eleven o'clock a.m. on Saturday.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD enquired if the leader of the House could say when the prorogation was likely to take place.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he could scarcely say with certainty when the prorogation might take place without disrespect to the other branch of the Legislature. As was well known, the heavy Bills were passed through the House last night for the purpose of being sent to the Senate. He might say, however, that he expected the work would be pretty nearly through on Saturday night. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that the motion of the leader of the Government should be changed and one o'clock be inserted instead of eleven. There were several Committees which might have to sit on that morning, and the change he proposed would accommodate them.

The amendment was accordingly made, and the motion carried.

* * *

PRIVILEGE

On the orders of the day being called,

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) rose to a question of privilege with regard to alleged correspondence between himself and Mr. Dennis Egan, postmaster in the County of Victoria. He knew it was somewhat out of order to refer to a previous debate, but under the circumstances he felt quite sure the House would bear with him. (*Hear, hear.*) When the question of dismissal from Government situations was before the House the other day, the hon. member from Cape Breton (Mr. McDonald), in opposition to the Government, made a general statement that he (Hon. Mr. Ross) used his influence officially during the late election contest. As the charge was only of a general nature he did not think it worthy of any notice.

The hon. member on that occasion passed over a letter to the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) which he represented as having been written by him (Hon. Mr. Ross), and the right hon. member asked him at the time to deny that he had written such a letter officially to any employee of the Government. He (Hon. Mr. Ross) expected that the letter would have been read or laid upon the table, when the Government and their friends would have an opportunity of seeing and of stating whether it was written by the Minister of Militia (Hon. Mr. Ross) or otherwise. The only reply he would have made at the time would

have been that he had not the most distant recollection of ever writing such a letter. (*Hear, hear.*)

Upon the letter having been referred to he went over to see the hon. member for Cape Breton, and informed him that if he showed the letter he would publicly acknowledge it if he found that he had written it, and as publicly deny it if he found that he had not. The hon. member promised him the letter from day to day, and pending its receipt he (Hon. Mr. Ross) had deferred making reference to the matter before today.

He (Hon. Mr. Ross) however had since seen a letter in print, stated to have been written by him. He was now in a position to say in the most emphatic words the English language afforded him that he never wrote such a letter at all, that he knew nothing of the person to whom it was represented to have been sent, that the name of that person (Mr. Egan) was entirely new to him, that he did not know if he occupied an official position under Government, and if he did he (Hon. Mr. Ross) was not aware to what department he belonged. (*Loud cheers.*)

He might say that in his own county of Victoria (Nova Scotia) a postmaster was for three weeks traversing the riding and canvassing against him, and he never remonstrated with him nor even sent him a written or verbal message of any description whatsoever. (*Hear, hear.*) A collector of customs also came thirteen miles to vote against him, and he refused to interfere with him in any way. (*Hear, hear.*) His hon. friend from Cape Breton took a particular interest, and sent several special telegrams to gentlemen in the County of Victoria in that connection.

Mr. McDONALD: I did, and I do not deny it. (*Hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) continued that during the time he was in his county, whatever he might have been asked to do, he never sent a telegraphic message, never wrote a letter, and never used his influence in connection with the electors in any way whatsoever. (*Cheers.*) He thought it would have been only courteous of the hon. member for Cape Breton (Mr. McDonald), after promising to give him the letter, to have done so before sending it all over the Dominion. Had he only shown that courtesy, he (Hon. Mr. Ross) would have been able to satisfy his friends whether he wrote the letter, but the hon. member, while promising to do it, failed to do it.

The very moment the letter appeared in print, he knew he could not have written any such document. He was not in the habit of signing himself Minister of Militia, except when it was necessary to put his name to official documents. He was not in the habit, either, of signing his name William Ross, except it were necessary in signing a deed or legal document to put his signature in full, but simply putting down W. Ross. (*Hear, hear.*) He took for granted the letter was genuine, so far as the hon. member for Cape Breton was concerned, but he also took for granted that some person had taken the liberty of writing this letter and using his name in connection therewith for some purpose or another. He now stated in the most emphatic terms that he never wrote this letter—(*Loud cheers*)—and he hoped the hon. member for Cape Breton would do himself the justice, if he would not do it to him (Hon. Mr. Ross), to give this denial as much publicity as he had been at pains to give to a bogus letter, never written by him at all. (*Hear, hear.*)

With those explanations he thanked the House for giving him the opportunity of making them, and for one would be satisfied if the letter were placed on the table of the House. He had said he had never written such a letter. He believed it was said to be a pencilled note, and to make the denial as complete as possible he had now to say that neither by pen nor by pencil had he anything to do with this letter. The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid loud and prolonged cheering.

Mr. McDONALD said he regretted that the hon. gentleman had not denied the charge when he made it the other evening.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria): You never mentioned the letter.

Mr. McDONALD said he had charged the hon. gentleman with having used his official influence with Government officers in Cape Breton.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: What about the letter?

Mr. McDONALD stated that he had obtained the letter on the 7th of February last. He knew the signature of the Minister of Militia, and everyone who had seen the letter had recognized it. He had given it to the right hon. member for Kingston, and had not seen it since.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Who gave it to the newspapers?

Mr. McDONALD was unable to say. He proceeded to explain that the telegram which he had sent was to deny a statement in one of the newspapers that a wharf was to be, or could be, constructed at a certain place in the County of Victoria. It was said that an engineer was on his way to make the necessary survey. He (Mr. McDonald) knew it was impossible to build a wharf or breakwater in the place, and this had turned out to be correct.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said this was out of order. The hon. gentleman had only to deal with the letter. The Minister of Militia had denied the paternity of the letter attributed to him by the member for Cape Breton, and the House could not enter into a general debate upon the occurrences during the recent general elections.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the Minister of Militia had referred to the elections, and the member for Cape Breton was perfectly in order.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON: Let us have the letter first.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: The hon. gentleman is out of order.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON resumed his seat.

Mr. McDONALD said he had been quite ready to give the letter to the Minister of Militia during the last five or six weeks, but when he (Hon. Mr. Ross) asked him for it he did not have it, and he promised to give it to him as soon as he obtained it. He had given it to the member for Kingston.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the hon. gentleman had given him the letter. He had read it and thought he recognized the handwriting of the Minister of Militia. He knew the hon. gentleman's handwriting as well as he did his own.

So thought Hon. Mr. Tupper also, to whom he gave the letter to be returned to the hon. member. Hon. Mr. Tupper had left for Montreal this morning—(*Hear, hear, and laughter*)—but he had received a telegram from him stating that the letter would be here tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I suppose it was not the right hon. gentleman who gave it to the newspapers.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Yes, it was I who gave it to the newspapers. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. BOWELL said the member for Cape Breton had shown him the letter, and had stated that the signature was Mr. Ross'. He had read the letter but did not know the handwriting of the Minister of Militia.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said he did not write the letter, and he believed if there were an investigation into the matter he could prove who did write it. He believed he could do this to the satisfaction of the House and the public. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. McKAY said the Minister of Militia was in his county during the last election, but the first intimation he had of Mr. D. Egan being in the county was the mention of his name in the *Ottawa Citizen*. He did not believe the Minister of Militia had written this letter. He thought the letter should have been placed in the hands of the Minister of Militia and that he should have been asked if he had written it.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON claimed that this discussion was out of order.

The matter was then dropped.

The orders of the day were then called.

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CONCURRENCE

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT moved concurrence in the resolutions reported from Committee of Supply.

The several resolutions were concurred in without discussion.

* * *

SUPPLY

On motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the House went into Committee of Supply and passed the following items:—

Fort Garry and Pembina Branch of the Pacific Railway, $650,000.

Pacific Railway construction and improvements on navigable waters in the interior in connection therewith, $1,500,000.

The Committee reported the resolutions.

CERTIFICATES TO OFFICERS OF COASTING SHIPS

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland), on the order for the third reading of the Bill respecting certificates to masters and mates of inland and coasting ships, said the Government did not intend to pursue this matter further this session, but would leave it over for the country to consider its provisions.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL thoroughly agreed with the principle of the Bill, and believed it would be sooner or later adopted.

The order was then discharged, and the Bill withdrawn.

* * *

PROVINCIAL LOANS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the House into Committee to consider a resolution authorizing the Governor in Council to advance to any Province such sums as may be required for local improvements, under certain conditions therein set forth. He explained that the object of the resolution was to enable the Government to advance money to the Provinces where the actual debt was less than that with which they came into the Union.

British Columbia, which had over $900,000 difference between its actual and nominal debt, desired to expend a portion of that money in local matters, and to obtain a loan from the Dominion. It had been the opinion of the late Finance Minister that this money could be advanced without Parliamentary authority, but the present Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) did not agree in that opinion. The Government had also had, from time to time, to advance considerable sums to the Province of Manitoba. These advances were, to a certain extent irregular, and this bill would so far legalize them.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked if the Government intended to obtain the assent of Parliament to each grant.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No.

The resolution was then adopted, reported, and concurred in.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he had no objection to the measure provided it were properly guarded, but this was giving unusually large powers to the Government.

The resolutions were then referred to the Committee on the Act to authorize the payment of a certain sum for the construction of a graving dock at Esquimalt.

* * *

MONTREAL HARBOUR

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in moving that the House go into Committee to consider a certain proposed resolution providing for the payment of an indemnity out of the revenue of the Harbour of Montreal to the President of the Board of Commissioners of the said harbour, said the object was to authorize the Harbour Commissioners to grant an indemnity, not exceeding $2,000, to the President of the Board.

The House went into Committee, adopted and reported the resolution, which was concurred in and referred.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Bill to amend the Act respecting the Trinity House and Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, which stood for its third reading, was referred back to Committee of the Whole. The foregoing resolution was incorporated in it.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL did not object to the clause which the hon. gentleman had just proposed, but he would say that the reversing of the deliberate conclusion arrived at last session with the assent of the country, giving to the Government the right to appoint four members of the Board, was most improper. There had not been a single application in favour of this change. The present Act was another step towards centralizing power in the hands of the Government. He held this to be a retrograde step, and that the present Government was less liberal that the last. He did not think the advancement of money by the Government should reverse the principle of popular control.

He regretted that the measure which he had introduced had only had one year's trial. The principle adopted by the Government was bad, and he hoped they would leave the bill unchanged, except the amendment to indemnify the Chairman of the Board.

The bill, thus amended, was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

WESTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY OF NOVA SCOTIA

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the House went into Committee to consider a resolution respecting the transfer to the Western Counties Railway of Nova Scotia of the railway from Windsor to the trunk line from Halifax to Truro.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and concurred in, and a Bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

* * *

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIANS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. LAIRD**, the Bill to amend certain laws respecting Indians, and to extend certain laws relating to matters connected with Indians in the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

HARBOUR MASTERS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to provide for the appointment of Harbour Masters for certain ports in the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and Prince Edward Island was read a second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

NORTHWEST CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DUTIES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the Bill to extend the time for imposing certain Customs and Excise duties, and for enacting more stringent restrictions on the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in the Northwest territories, was read a second time, and the House went into Committee to consider its provisions.

Mr. BUNSTER protested against any restrictions upon the manufacture of liquor in British Columbia.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) hoped the Hon. Minister of Finance would consent to no relaxation of the principle of the Bill.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) supported the principle of the Bill, and would have preferred even to see it entirely prohibitory.

The Bill was then reported with verbal amendments; the amendments were concurred in, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

* * *

ALGOMA

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. DORION**, the Bill for the purpose of avoiding doubts as to the application of the Act 32-33 Vic., Cap. 35, to the District of Algoma was read a second time, passed through Committee of the Whole, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN MANITOBA

Hon. Mr. DORION moved the second reading of the Bill to extend certain Acts relating to the prompt administration of justice in criminal matters to the Province of Manitoba.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD desired to know if the attention of the Minister of Justice had been called to the fact that the law provided that the Chief Justice of Manitoba should be able to speak both French and English.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he was aware that the Act of the Local Legislature required that all the judges should be able to do so, but he had seen a very strong protest from his predecessor in office against the provision. (*Hear, hear.*) The Chief Justice recently appointed was able to speak French with tolerable facility.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the Confederation Act required that Judges in Ontario and Quebec be selected from the members of the Bar of the respective Province, but, as there was no such restriction with regard to the selection of Judges for the other Provinces, he held that the Act of the Manitoba Legislature referred to was *ultra vires*, and he merely drew the attention of the Minister of Justice to the fact in order to ascertain his opinion.

Hon. Mr. DORION said his attention had been called to the opinion of the right hon. gentleman, but he had not yet formed any decisive opinion of his own, not having considered it necessary to look into the matter.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and reported the Bill without amendment.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

With the consent of the House, **Mr. MILLS** presented the report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills.

* * *

MILITIA

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) introduced a Bill to amend the Act respecting Militia and Defence in the Dominion of Canada, and extending its provisions to Prince Edward Island. He explained that the amendment was to avoid the necessity of enrolment every year, and not compel it to be made more frequently than once in four years, giving the Government power, however, to have it done more frequently if necessary.

In answer to Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated it was intended to have an enrolment once in four years, which the Government believed to be ample.

The Bill was then read a first and second time, and the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider its provisions.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) enquired if it was the intention of the Government to take out the volunteers this year, in what force, and at what season.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he believed measures were taken by the Department to have some of them out who were not out last year. It was the intention to call them out at an early period in June, but the force would not be so large as usual, as it was the intention of the Government to cut down the expenditures as much as possible. Those who had not drilled last year would be called out this year.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) enquired what pay the active volunteers would get and if those who were cut last year would be compelled to come again.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the pay would be higher than before, and it was the intention not to call the force every year.

Mr. BOWELL enquired if the Companies were going to be reduced.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said they would probably be reduced to about forty men each, and the officers.

Mr. BOWELL enquired whether the Government had decided that the Aide-de-Camp to the Governor General should be an officer of the volunteers or of the regular army.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the wishes of the Governor General would be consulted on that matter. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Bill was then reported, read a third time, and passed.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) moved that so much of the report of the Joint Committee on Printing as refers to the report of the Select Committee on Manufacturing Interests be referred back to the said Joint Committee.—Carried by consent of the House.

It being six o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

On the order for the third reading of the Permanent Building Societies Bill,

Mr. MOSS moved that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole with instructions to amend the same so as to allow societies having a paid-up capital of not less than $40,000 and not more than $200,000, to receive deposits to the extent of their paid-up capital.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON expressed the opinion that the Bill was almost, if not altogether, a purely Provincial measure, referring only to the Province of Ontario, and that the amendment made in the Committee on Banking and Commerce and carried in the House yesterday raised the question of whether it had not become practically useless. Whether it ought not to be thrown out on the third reading was also a question which might fairly present itself to the minds of hon. members.

The House then went into Committee, **Mr. STEPHENSON** in the chair. The amendment was incorporated in the bill which was reported with amendments. The amendment was read a second time and adopted.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that it was for the Government to say whether the Bill was one which could pass the House, which, in its amended form, was nothing more or less than a revisal of the policy of the country with regard to Savings Banks.

Hon. Mr. DORION thought there was no danger arising from the quarter spoken of by the hon. gentleman from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton). His hon. friend must know, from his connection with a Savings Bank in Montreal, which never had a copper of paid-up capital, that the security of a Savings Bank did not depend upon paid-up capital. He himself thought the smaller the capital the less danger there was. He had very grave doubts as to whether it was competent for this House to legislate at all upon the subject. He, however, thought it would be invidious to raise that question upon this particular Bill.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) thought there could be no particular objection to the Bill on the ground referred to by the hon. member for Châteauguay, but the point raised by the Hon. the Minister of Justice was a much more grave and serious one. He was not prepared to say whether that objection was valid or not, but he regretted that the Government had failed this session to propose the creation of a Court which would be competent to set all such matters at rest. He suggested that the third reading should be left

over till tomorrow, in order to give time for consideration. If it were in their power, he would be glad to see the measure passed.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he and the Minister of Finance had been called upon as members of the Committee on Banking and Commerce, and members of the Government, to consider this measure very carefully, and he was bound to say that although the House had yesterday reversed the conclusion at which they had arrived, he still thought that conclusion was correct.

He confessed that the Building Societies of Ontario had been very successful for various reasons, but he agreed with the Minister of Justice and the hon. member for Cardwell that they were not saving societies. He regretted very much that the House had reversed the decision of the Banking Committee, which he thought ought to be somewhat binding on the House. He had no doubt the success of the smaller societies had to a large extent influenced the Committee in their decision, but he thought it would not be perfectly safe to take that altogether for granted. He thought that the third reading of the Bill should be postponed until tomorrow in order that the general principle involved could be considered.

Mr. IRVING was willing to leave his remarks until the third reading of the Bill provided that they were postponed till tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON thought the Government should be careful in passing measures which it was possible were beyond the jurisdiction of the House. He considered that it was the duty of the Government during the recess to establish a principle and rule which would guide them in the legislation brought before the House, and which would guide the Local Legislatures in the same manner. Future legislation might undo the legislation of the present, and interfere with rights which have thus been created.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said it was the duty of the Government to decide before coming to the House what bills were within the jurisdiction of the House, and measures they considered they could not legislate upon should not be submitted to this Parliament. He dissented from the dogma laid down that a bill which had passed through a committee should be accepted *ipso facto* by the House.

Mr. MOSS, while willing to consent to leave the third reading over till tomorrow, was unwilling that any further delay should take place. He thought he was being rather unfairly treated, after the question and principle had been so well and thoroughly discussed in the Committee and the House, by members at this stage raising a constitutional point.

The members from Ontario, differ as they might upon the details of the Bill, were agreed upon the general principles it involved, and were anxious to see it pass. He took entire exception to the analogy endeavoured to be established by the hon. member (Hon. Mr. Holton) between Building Societies and Savings Banks, and was sorry that he should have taken objections to the bill passing its third reading now. He hoped that members who intended to raise constitutional objections would do so now, and not spring them upon hon. members who were not learned in the law at the moment when they would have no time to make up their minds, which they could not be expected to do without some consideration

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it should be understood that the bill would be disposed of tomorrow. Nothing, however, would be gained by discussing the constitutionality of the measure now.

On the motion of **Mr. MOSS**, it was then resolved that the bill should be read a third time tomorrow.

* * *

BILLS FROM THE SENATE

Several Bills were brought down from the Senate, some of them with amendments. Among others amended was the Controverted Elections Bill, the amendments to which were read a first time.

* * *

QUEBEC ICE BRIDGE

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal Ouest) moved the second reading of the bill to amend Act 29 Vic., Cap. 57, of the statutes of the late Province of Canada. He stated that the object of the bill was to amend the charter of the city of Quebec by abolishing the ice bridge. The bill was based upon a petition from the leading commercial men of Montreal and Quebec.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON suggested that the bill should be withdrawn and the order discharged. The object of the bill would be furthered by postponing legislation in this respect for a year.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal Ouest) said the bill might as well be strangled this way as another, he supposed.

Hon. Mr. DORION suggested that the measure should be referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal Ouest) said he would not refer the matter to a Committee, because that would involve its not passing this session.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the hon. gentleman was only allowed to move the second reading on sufferance.

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal Ouest) considered that since the petition had been received from the leading commercial men of Montreal and Quebec, the measure should be passed. He did not anticipate any objection being offered to the bill. It was not printed, and, if he refused to consent to the suggestion of his hon. friend, the Minister of Justice, he would take upon himself the responsibility of the second reading being refused.

The bill was then read a second time and referred to a committee consisting of Hon. Messrs. Dorion, Cauchon, and Smith (Westmorland), Mr. Fréchette, and the mover.

* * *

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Mr. MacKENZIE (Montreal Ouest) then moved the second reading of the bill to amend Act 36 Vic., Cap. 47, respecting weights and measures. The object of the bill, he stated, was to make

the use of the cental by grain dealers voluntary, and not compulsory as at present.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) pointed out that this bill changed the whole law with regard to weights and measures.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was cognizant of that fact, and he considered the matter was one deserving of consideration, and he believed it would have been better to have postponed legislation in this direction for a year. He suggested that the bill be read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

After some further consideration, the bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

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PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved concurrence in the sixth report of the Printing Committee, recommending that the contracts for printing be awarded to Messrs. McLean, Rogers & Co.; for binding, to Messrs. Grison, Fréchette & Co.; and for paper, to Mr. Barber of Georgetown.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON suggested that one of the terms of the contract was that in case the contractor should fail to turn out the work in proper time he should be required to pay the difference which would be involved by engaging fresh printers.

Mr. YOUNG said that provision was already in the contract.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the establishment of a Government printing office was a matter worthy of the consideration of the Government.

Mr. YOUNG said he had opposed the closing up of Mr. Taylor's office on the same ground as he opposed the closing of Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co.'s office in 1867; and although he could certainly not be thought to be very much in favour of Mr. Taylor, he yet thought it would not be in the public interest to take the contract from him, although the other was a little lower, seeing that he had already an office fully equipped with a staff of printers and the necessary mechanical apparatus.

Mr. BOWELL said the delays that had been experienced this session in the printing were not due to the contractor, because he found a good many bills which should have gone to the printer's office had been printed by McLean, Rogers & Co.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE was of opinion that there should be two printing officers in order that the work might be more expeditiously be performed.

The report was then concurred in.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) then moved concurrence in the seventh report of the Joint Committee on Printing relating to the diminution in the number of copies published of Votes and Proceedings. There should in future be two copies of those belonging to each House given to each member.

Mr. YOUNG thought the reduction from six to two was rather great.

Mr. DYMOND thought it a very absurd piece of cheese-paring. He assured the House that there was very great interest in the country in the copies of the Minutes which members were at present enabled to send to their friends.

Mr. BURPEE (Sunbury) moved that consideration of the report be postponed until three months hence.

Mr. BOWELL seconded the motion.

Mr. THOMPSON (Haldimand) hoped the original motion would be carried.

After some further discussion the members were called in, the House divided, and the amendment was lost: yeas, 55; nays, 70.

YEAS

Messrs.

Abbott	Appleby
Baby	Bertram
Borron	Bowell
Brooks	Buell
Bunster	Burk
Burpee (Sunbury)	Cauchon
Cimon	Cunningham (Marquette)
Currier	De Veber
Dewdney	Dymond
Fiset	Fleming
Flesher	Forbes
Galbraith	Gill
Gordon	Hagar
Haggart	Harper
Jones (Leeds South)	Kerr
McGregor	McQuade
Masson	Mills
Mitchell	Monteith
Mousseau	Norris
Orton	Paterson
Plumb	Pozer
Richard	Robitaille
Ross (Durham East)	Rouleau
Scatcherd	Shibley
Smith (Selkirk)	Stephenson
Wallace	White (Hastings East)
White (Renfrew North)	Wright (Pontiac)
Young–55	

NAYS

Messrs.

Archibald	Bain
Barthe	Béchard
Bernier	Biggar
Blain	Bourassa
Bowman	Boyer
Brown	Burpee (St. John – City & County)
Casey	Casgrain
Cheval	Church
Cockburn	Colby
Costigan	Cunningham (New Westminster)
Delorme	De St-Georges
Desjardins	Dorion
Ferguson	Fournier
Fréchette	Geoffrion
Gibson	Harvey

Holton	Huntington	Sinclair	Smith (Peel)
Irving	Killam	Smith (Westmorland)	Stuart
Kirk	Laflamme	Taschereau	Thompson (Haldimand)
Laird	Lajoie	Tremblay	Walker
Lantier	Laurier	Willson	Wood (Hamilton)-70
McCallum	McDonald		
McDougall (Renfrew South)	McIsaac		
Mackay	McKay		
Mackenzie (Lambton)	MacKenzie (Montreal Ouest)		
MacLennan	Oliver		
Pâquet	Pelletier		
Pouliot	Prévost		
Ross (Middlesex West)	Ross (Prince Edward)		
Ross (Victoria)	Rymal		
St-Jean	Scriver		

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (Marquette) then moved an amendment that members should be allowed to purchase copies of Votes and Proceedings at rates to be fixed by the Joint Committee on Printing.

The amendment was ruled out of order, and the original motion carried on a division.

The House adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 22, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Messrs. **ST-JEAN, BOWMAN** and **RICHARD** presented petitions in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

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REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) presented the report of the Committee on Prohibition.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the report of the Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines recommending an increase of the fee on Private Bills to $200.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the eleventh report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce, containing a like recommendation.

Mr. YOUNG presented the first, second and third reports of the Committee on Public Accounts, with the evidence taken by the sub-Committee on the Intercolonial Railway and other papers. The reports also directed attention to the department of the Queen's Printer, to enquire whether the number of employees could not be reduced.

Mr. GEOFFRION presented the report of the Committee on the difficulties in the Northwest, stating that they had held thirty-seven sittings and examined twenty-one witnesses. They submitted the evidence taken before them, and stated that they could not complete the examination because several important witnesses were absent in Europe and in the Northwest and could not be brought before the Committee.

The Committee had also enquired into the subject whether or not a direct or implied promise of amnesty had been made. The Committee had examined a number of witnesses, and had examined many important documents but had not as yet found any evidence of a distinct promise of amnesty; they concluded by leaving it to the House whether the proceedings of the Committee should terminate or be continued until the whole matter is thoroughly sifted.

Mr. PÂQUET presented the report of the Committee on Immigration and Colonization.

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE presented the report of the Committee on the most direct route to Europe.

MOTIONS

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Banking and Commerce Committee, he would move, seconded by **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, that the rule of the House be amended to change the fee for private bills from $100 to $200.—Carried.

Mr. MILLS moved that the rule with reference to printing in the Province of Manitoba be amended so that the printing in that Province may be in French as well as in English.—Carried.

Mr. YOUNG moved that the second report of the Public Accounts Committee, with the evidence, papers, and letters in relation to the Dawson route, be published for the use of members.

After some discussion as to whether the motion was in order,

Mr. YOUNG altered the motion so that it was merely a reference to the Printing Committee.

It was then carried.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the fees on the Bill to incorporate the Saint John Bridge and Railway Company be refunded less the expense of printing.—Carried.

Mr. COSTIGAN moved that notices in the *Official Gazette* and local papers as to the Province of New Brunswick shall be printed in the English and French languages.

After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE brought down returns of reports of the Commissioners on the causes of the high spring floods on the St. Lawrence; correspondence between the Government and Edward Farrer, late one of the editors of *The Mail*, and now an emigrant agent in Ireland; and reports in reference to the cost of wood and iron for bridges on the Intercolonial Railroad.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) brought down a return, the nature of which could not be understood in the gallery, the hon. gentleman's remarks being inaudible.

* * *

EXPIRING LAWS

Mr. PRÉVOST introduced a Bill to continue for a limited time the Acts therein mentioned.

The Bill was read first and second times.

MILITIA ACTS

The Bill to amend the Act respecting the militia and the defence of the Dominion of Canada, and to extend the same to the Province of Prince Edward Island, was, on the motion of **Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria)**, read a third time and passed.

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CONCURRENCE IN SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT**, the remaining resolutions reported from Committee of Supply were concurred in.

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CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. FOURNIER**, the amendments made by the Senate to the Bill to make provision for the trial of controverted elections of members of the House of Commons, and respecting matters connected therewith, were read a second time. The Clerk was instructed to carry the amended Bill back to the Senate.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the following orders were discharged:

House in Committee to consider certain proposed resolutions relating to the Trinity House of Quebec.

House in Committee to consider a certain proposed resolution providing for the payments of any indemnity out of the revenue of the Harbour of Quebec to the President of the Board of Commissioners of the said Harbour.

Second reading of the Bill to make provision for the construction of a Graving Dock at Quebec, and for other purposes.

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IMPROVEMENTS TO HARBOURS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the House went into Committee to consider a resolution providing means by tonnage dues for the improvement of harbours and channels.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and concurred in, and a Bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER informed the House he had received a message from the Senate announcing the passage of certain Bills. The Bills were accordingly read the first time.

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NORTHERN RAILWAY

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the House went into Committee to consider resolutions respecting the Government lien on the Northern Railway.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE explained that the Northern Railway Company were largely indebted to the Government. At the session of 1873 the late Government introduced certain resolutions which were not proceeded with, proposing to accept either 100,000 pounds sterling or $400,000, he was not sure which, in place of the Government lien. Sundry negotiations had taken place with the authorities of the railway in relation to this matter, and it was felt to be a somewhat pressing necessity to have some understanding arrived at which would permit the free action of the present Company or of some Company to be organized.

There were some rights of a private nature to be recognized. The County of Simcoe had 50,000 pounds sterling of stock, and the City of Toronto another 50,000 pounds sterling in the road, while other private parties had 69,000 pounds sterling all told. A large portion of this had changed hands, some at as low a figure as one cent on the dollar; but he believed the majority of the amount remained in the hands of the original owners. After giving a great deal of consideration to the matter, Government had arrived at the conclusion that they would make the proposal embodied in the resolutions.

It would be remembered by those who were in the last Parliament that the Government held 50,000 pounds sterling of second-preference bonds and 50,000 pounds sterling were supposed to be held in third-preference bonds, but these had never been issued. The Government proposed in this resolution to accept a sum of 100,000 pounds sterling in lieu of the lien they had on the road, and that the 50,000 pounds of second-preference bonds and the 50,000 pounds of third-preference bonds should hold that present order of priority, and that the accrued interest upon these bonds should all be a charge upon the road. He thought the second-preference bonds were a good asset, which would yield nearly the amount it represented.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) understood the First Minister did not intend by this resolution to change the present arrangement.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the resolution proposed to wipe out the Government lien upon the conditions which he had mentioned.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD pointed out to the hon. member for Cardwell that the shareholders would be gainers by the wiping out of the lien. He asked if he understood that if the Government lien was blotted out by the payment to the Government of $400,000, then these second- and third-preference bonds were still to remain in the hands of the Government in their respective positions.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) asked if the Government had any real value of the stock and the awards of the Company. By these resolutions the Northern Railway Co. would receive a large amount of money which he did not consider they were entitled to. It was too late in the session to bring in a measure of this importance. The Northern Railway Co. was as able to meet its liabilities as the Great Western Railway Co.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE pointed out that the Government were not relieving the Northern Railway Company, as in fact there was no Company to relieve. The road was really in the hands of the

Government if they chose to enforce their liens. They were bound by previous legislation to see the bondholders secured, so that the bondholders came first, the Government next, and then the shareholders. The shareholders, however, had no control whatsoever, as the bondholders managed the road. The Government had received no interest at all. The bondholders could only get the interest on their bonds, and make no improvements; and the result of the legislation every year was to make the Government lien more and more remote. It was the duty of the Government to endeavour to remedy this state of things.

When the hon. gentlemen said that the Northern Railway Company could pay its obligations, he was not aware that there was no such thing in existence as the Northern Railway Company. It was myth and a delusion, and it was for Parliament to say whether it should be resuscitated or the road should be put in the hands of the new company, which he thought was the real solution of the difficulty.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said he should be glad to see this amount realized for the lien. He understood, however, that the First Minister intended to incorporate these resolutions with a voluminous Private Bill which was not yet in a position to take the second reading. It was hardly possible to give this matter the consideration it deserved at this period of the session, and while he would not oppose the passage of the resolutions now, he hoped they would be printed before concurrence was moved tomorrow.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) said his hon. friend from Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) hardly understood the question. It was not the fault of the Government that they did not get interest. If he were to believe the statements of those directly connected with the road, the company was in a position to pay interest upon all classes of its securities. It was today in as good a position as it was last year and he saw no reason for special legislation. If the Premier passed his resolutions and then laid them on the table he would not oppose him, but if he intended to go further he would oppose him in every way in his power.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he would insist on pushing through the bill and the Government intended to make the shareholders pay the amount within a limited time, say six months.

Mr. BLAIN asked whether it was the intention of Government to realize this claim in favour of the bondholders. This was a very important question.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the position of the bill was that they first decided upon an amount to be paid to the Government, and, if the shareholders could pay that amount to the Government, and make such arrangements as would secure to the bondholders that to which they were entitled, then they could have the balance. Then, if they were not able to do that, the Government would allow the bondholders to make the arrangement and pay the lien the Government asked.

After some discussion on this point, in which nothing of importance was elicited,

Mr. MOSS said the resolutions were intended to relieve a large number of persons of difficulties which were especially felt by the City of Toronto. Of course, the member for Hamilton did not agree with the resolutions. The mode proposed was only one by which the road could be extracted from its difficulties. He consented that the present stockholders were quite well protected, and thought the proposition was a wise and just one. This legislation, he asserted, would be in the interest of the country in every aspect.

He thought the shareholders should have the first opportunity of taking advantage of the schemes and he would then have it thrown open to the world, not being confined to the bondholders as proposed by the leader of the Government.

Mr. YOUNG asked what was the character of the Government claim, whether it was worth anything, whether any interest had been paid on it, and how long since any interest had been paid.

Mr. BLAIN said the claim was somewhere about $1,360,000.

Mr. YOUNG asked whether the bonds which would remain would continue to hold their present order of priority.

Mr. MOSS said they would be real interest-paying bonds. The Government desired to allow the shareholders to pay the Government and have the whole benefit of the road.

Mr. YOUNG desired to know what amount of interest had been paid on the liens.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said nothing had been paid upon the first-preference bonds; 4,000 pounds sterling, he thought, had been first paid on the second-preference bonds, but no interest had been paid upon the third-preference bonds, which were not yet issued although they ought to have been. The claim the Government had for interest was about 120,000 pounds sterling. The Company had practically been defunct for the past twenty years, and he hoped the Committee had sufficient confidence in the Government to believe that the proposal submitted was the best that could be devised.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said the Government claim was about 400,000 pounds sterling. These resolutions had simply to do with that, but nothing with reference to the relative position of the shareholders or bondholders. He perfectly approved these resolutions, so far as the money arrangement was concerned.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) said the Company was not in bad circumstances. It was the best road in Canada, and yet the people said they were in bad circumstances. A Company that earned a million dollars a year was not assuredly in bad circumstances. The road had not paid any interest because they had not made any claim for it, and the interest which should have gone to the Government was expended on the road.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that the proposition was to enable the Government to realize the interest and the debt.

Mr. PLUMB said the question was not now about the position of the bondholders and stockholders, but it was whether it was the policy of the Government to relinquish any part of its claim. He understood that the road was now in a good condition.

Mr. CURRIER said that he had that much confidence in the Company that, rather than give up the Government claim, he would

stick to it. He held that the Government claim was worth more than what was offered. He would rather see the road taken and run by the Government.

Mr. O'DONOHOE was glad that the Prime Minister had taken up the subject as he had on the present occasion. He did not see that by this measure the bondholders were any way benefited. It would be the shareholders who would be benefited in the proportion that the Government reduced its lien. He was satisfied that the lien was worth no more than the value set upon it, and that in a year from now the claim might not be worth as much as now.

The resolutions were adopted and reported.

* * *

NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAYS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** the Bill to authorize the transfer of the Windsor Branch of the Nova Scotia Railway to the Western Counties Railway Company was read a second time, and the House went into Committee of the Whole, passed several of the clauses, and reported, asking leave to sit again tomorrow.

* * *

BREAKWATER AT COW BAY

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** the Bill to authorize the purchase of the pier or breakwater at Cow Bay was read a second time and passed through Committee of the Whole, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

The following Private Bills were read a third time:

To amend the charter of the Montreal Credit Company.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To incorporate the Anglo-Canadian Mortgage and Investment Company (Limited).—**Hon. Mr. AYLMER**.

To incorporate the Colonial Building and Investment Association.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To incorporate the Lumber Exchange of the City of St. John, New Brunswick.—**Mr. De VEBER**.

To give certain additional powers to the Port Whitby Harbour Company.—**Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South)**.

To incorporate the Rouge Boom Company.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

* * *

CRIMINAL LAW TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

Hon. Mr. DORION introduced a Bill to extend to the Province of British Columbia the provisions of the Criminal Law of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON complained that the bill was not printed.

Hon. Mr. DORION said he would have it printed. (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: After we have gone, I suppose.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said, apropos to this rapid passage of bills brought to the House and submitted in a galley form, he desired to relate an anecdote. A man guilty of forgery was arrested for the crime, immediately put into the dock, tried, and convicted. When the prisoner was asked if he had anything to say, he rejoined, "Nothing further than I think this is a smart place for doing business." (*Loud laughter.*)

The Bill was read a first and second time, passed through Committee of the Whole, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex West) moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

AFTER RECESS

The SPEAKER took the chair at eight o'clock.

* * *

ESQUIMALT GRAVING DOCK

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Bill to authorize the payment of a certain sum for the construction of a Graving dock at Esquimalt was read a second time.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill, and adopted and reported it.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Bill declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, within the meaning of section 92 of the British North America Act of 1867, was passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

Mr. MOSS moved the third reading of the Bill to make further provision for the management of Permanent Building Societies in the Dominion of Canada.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Holton,

Hon. Mr. DORION said he had doubts as to some of the provisions of the bill for the further management of Permanent Building Societies; but he was not disposed to express his doubts as to previous legislation which had taken place.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said in Committee that he regarded the bill as one of great importance, involving as it did a question of public policy. The Committee felt it their duty to call the attention of the Government to those points which seemed objectionable in their character. The Minister of Finance was sent for, who prepared an amendment to one of the clauses, which had been revoked by a

motion of the hon. member for Oxford North (Mr. Oliver). He deemed it his duty to call the attention of the House to this, as he thought the Ministry should fully consider the matter before allowing the bill to pass.

Mr. BLAIN and **Mr. OLIVER** made a few remarks.

Mr. IRVING moved a six-month postponement, but failed to get a seconder.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the Bill had been amended in Committee in accordance with the wishes of the Government, but since the House had, by a large majority, carried the amendment of the member for Oxford North (Mr. Oliver) the Government would not oppose its passage.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON moved to add the following words to the amended clause:—"And also to all Building Societies in the Province of Ontario, not having a permanent paid-up capital of $40,000 or more, except that such said last Building Societies shall not have power to receive deposits or issue debentures."

After some remarks from Messrs. **TROW** and **MILLS** and **Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD**,

Mr. MOSS said that both the Minister of Justice and the member for Kingston had expressed their opinion that the Bill should pass, and it would save time if the House adopted their suggestions. He also paid a high tribute to Hon. Mr. Holton.

Hon. Mr. CAUCHON withdrew his amendment.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

* * *

CONSTITUTION OF THE SENATE

Mr. MILLS said he would withdraw his Senate resolutions this evening, but it might be well for the protection of this House to leave the order on the order papers.

* * *

BILL DROPPED

The Bill of **Mr. ROBILLARD** regarding proceedings in criminal cases was dropped.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House.

The House adjourned at ten p.m. until 1 p.m. tomorrow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Saturday, May 23, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 1.15 p.m.

Prayers

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER announced that he had received a message from the Senate, announcing that they had passed certain Bills, some of them with slight amendments.

* * *

REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Mr. STIRTON presented the eighth report of the Committee on Printing.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the twelfth report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

* * *

PUBLIC WORKS BILL

On the second reading of the amendments made by the Senate to the Public Works of Canada Bill,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved that this House disagrees with the amendment made by the Senate to subsection 5 of section 2. He explained that the amendment gave power to all persons claiming lands to have an arbitration. The amendment would altogether defeat the object of the Bill.

The motion was carried.

* * *

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY OF CANADA

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the report of the Committee of the Whole on certain proposed resolutions respecting the Government lien on the Northern Railway was concurred in. A bill was introduced, founded on the resolutions.

* * *

THE SUPPLY BILL

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE introduced the Supply Bill, which was read a first time.

On the motion for the second reading,

Hon. Mr. HOLTON asked if the leader of the Government could give any indication as to the probable close of the Session.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was the intention of the Government, unless something should occur which they did not anticipate at present, to endeavour to prorogue on Tuesday.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked if the House would sit on Monday.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said not unless there was some unexpected detention of Bills in the Upper House. They would probably know before the sitting closed today.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said several members desired to leave tonight, if they understood that nothing would require their attention except the reconsideration of Bills from the Senate.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he did not dream of doing any business except that which was before the two Houses now.

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Supply Bill was read a third time and passed.

* * *

WINDSOR BRANCH, NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the second reading of the Bill to authorize the transfer of the Windsor Branch of the Nova Scotia Railway to the Western Counties Railway Company.

Mr. OAKES made some remarks which were inaudible in the gallery.

Mr. GOUDGE objected to this road being handed over to this Company, as they had no means of working it. The transfer also interfered with vested rights.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE replied, explaining the reasons why the Government introduced this measure.

The Bill was then read a second time and passed through Committee with amendments.

On the motion for the third reading,

Mr. GOUDGE moved the re-committal of the Bill, in order to add a clause providing that the tolls on the railway should not be greater than those on the other Government railways. Lost on a division.

Mr. OAKES moved that the bill be re-committed in order to provide that the road should not be handed over to the Western Counties Railway Company until they have constructed their road from Annapolis to Yarmouth. Lost on a division.

Mr. GOUDGE moved the re-committal of the Bill to provide that if the road were not finished within three years, the

arrangement with the Western Counties Railway Company should cease. Lost.

Mr. GOUDGE moved the re-committal of the Bill to provide that if the Western Counties Railway Company did not complete their road within five years, the Windsor Branch should lapse to the Government. Lost.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

* * *

INDEMNITY TO MEMBERS

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved that the Accountant be authorized to pay Messrs. **THOMPSON (Cariboo)**, **BORRON, PERRY**, and **HARPER** the full amount of their indemnity on account of the peculiar circumstances of their cases. —Carried.

* * *

THE INSOLVENCY LAW

The SPEAKER announced that he had received from the Senate the bill, without amendment, to continue the Insolvency Law for another year.

* * *

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the House went into Committee to consider a resolution to extend certain Acts to the Province of Prince Edward Island.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and concurred in; a Bill founded thereon was then introduced and read a first and second time, passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

PORT WARDENS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to provide for the appointment of Port Wardens at certain ports of the Dominion was read a second time and passed through Committee, read a third time, and passed.

* * *

THE SEAMEN'S ACT

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to extend certain provisions of the Seamen's Act to vessels employed in navigating the inland waters of Canada was withdrawn, and the order discharged.

* * *

THE INSOLVENCY BILL

On the order for the second reading of the Bill relating to insolvency,

Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD and **Hon. Mr. HOLTON** said they hoped the Minister of Justice would not press the Bill this session. There was not time to consider the Bill as carefully as a matter of so great importance demanded.

Hon. Mr. DORION said perhaps he had better take the Senate Bill for this session. He moved the discharge of the order. —Carried.

Hon. Mr. DORION then moved the first reading of the Bill from the Senate to continue the present law for another year.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) asked if the Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Dorion) intended to make provision for the winding up of limited liability companies.

Hon. Mr. DORION said provisions of this kind formed one of the principal features of the new Bill which he had proposed, but it would have been very difficult to incorporate them with an extension of the present law.

Mr. YOUNG said another question for consideration was whether the right of dower should be continued in case of insolvency.

Hon. Mr. DORION said the suggestions made would have his consideration during the recess.

The Bill was then read a first, second, and third time, and passed.

* * *

PORT STANLEY HARBOUR

Mr. CASEY presented the report of the Committee on the Port Stanley Harbour, with the evidence taken before the said Committee.

* * *

TONNAGE DUES

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the Bill to provide means by tonnage dues for the improvement of harbours and channels was withdrawn, and the order discharged.

* * *

PATENT ACT

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**, the Bill from the Senate to further amend the Patent Act of 1872 was read a second and third time and passed. It was explained the object of the bill was merely to amend a clerical error.

* * *

EXPIRING LAWS

On the motion of **Mr. PRÉVOST**, the Bill to continue for only a limited time the Acts therein mentioned was read a second and third time and passed.

* * *

RESOLUTIONS DROPPED

The resolutions of **Mr. MILLS** with respect to the constitution of the Senate were dropped.

* * *

PACIFIC RAILWAY

Mr. De COSMOS asked if the Government intended to secure the commencement of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia within the year 1874; if so, when? If not, why not? (*Laughter.*)

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: The Government have already stated at least half a dozen times in the House that the road could not be commenced until the surveys were completed. The surveys are not completed, and the Government cannot tell when they will be completed; but I have no idea they can be completed by the end of this year. That is the reason "why"; as to "when", that, of course, depends upon the previous part of the answer. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*)

* * *

ARBITRARY DISMISSALS

Mr. CARON moved for correspondence, et cetera, in reference to the dismissal of Mr. H.J. Chaloner, of Quebec, as shipping master. He explained that Mr. Chaloner received his appointment on the 27th October last, and was dismissed in February last. He understood that the Premier said no appointment made on the 27th October last would be cancelled, and he wished to know why an exception was made in the case of Mr. Chaloner.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said Mr. Chaloner was dismissed because his appointment was unnecessary. The late Government appointed two gentlemen at $1,600 a year each, to perform duties which had been efficiently performed by one before at a salary of twelve hundred dollars. That official had been superannuated. The present Government had simply restored the former officer, and the duties were being efficiently performed. He regretted that the motion had not been moved earlier in the session.

The motion was carried.

* * *

THE AMNESTY QUESTION

Mr. MOUSSEAU moved a resolution for an Address to Her Majesty praying that a general amnesty be granted to all persons charged with offenses committed during and in connection with the disturbances which occurred in Manitoba in the winter of 1869-1870.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON held that the motion was out of order, as the necessary two days' notice had not been given.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said it was absolutely necessary to go on with the private bills in order to send them up to the Senate.

The SPEAKER ruled the motion out of order on the ground of insufficient notice.

* * *

THIRD READINGS

The following Private Bills were read a third time and passed:—

To enable the Montreal Northern Colonization Railway Company to build a bridge over the Ottawa River.—**Hon. Mr. ABBOTT**.

To incorporate the Central Canada Telegraph Company.—**Mr. SMITH (Selkirk)**.

To incorporate the Great North West Railway Company.—**Mr. O'DONOHOE**.

To authorize corporations incorporated without the limits of Canada to lend and invest therein.—**Mr. WALKER**.

To incorporate the Ottawa Loan and Investment Co.—**Mr. CAMERON (Ontario South)**.

To incorporate the International Express Co.—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

To amend the Act 27 Vic., Cap. 49, incorporating the Lower Canada Investment and Agency Co. (Limited).—**Hon. Mr. ABBOTT**.

To define and extend the powers of the Western Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society, and to authorize the shareholders to change the name of the said Society.—**Mr. KIRKPATRICK**.

To define and extend the powers of the Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society, and to authorize the shareholders to change the name of the said Society.—**Mr. MOSS**.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS ACT

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, in moving concurrence in the amendments made by the Senate in the Bill respecting Dominion Lands in Manitoba, pointed out that he was of opinion the Upper House had exceeded its power in increasing the grant of land to certain persons from 140 to 160 acres. Mr. Trudel, however, disagreed with him, and he did not wish to move disagreement with the amendments of their Honours unless he was quite certain.

After some remarks from **Hon. Mr. HOLTON** and **Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD**, the amendments were concurred in without waiver of the rights of this House.

* * *

PRIVATE BILLS

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**, reporting from the Committee on Banking and Commerce, the Bill to incorporate the Hopewell Shipbuilding Company was passed through Committee, read a third time and passed.

On the motion of **Mr. MOSS**, the Bill to authorize the shareholders of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Loan and Savings Society to change the name of the said Society was read a third time and passed.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

On the motion for the second reading of the Bill to authorize the Northern Railway Company of Canada to amalgamate with the Northern Extension Company, and to consolidate the various Acts relating to the said Company,

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said it was clear this Private Bill could not be proceeded with this session, without the assent of the shareholders and bondholders interested in this matter. The Government did not feel justified in giving such extensive powers as would be conferred by the bill.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had to consider what should be done with this railway, and he had found very great difficulty in proposing any serious legislation in the House. In 1859 an Act was passed giving power to the Government to sell the road or do almost anything they pleased with it. That, however, was done at the request of parties interested, but now there was no such request before them, and he had come to the conclusion that it would be impracticable to do anything more this session than had been done.

Mr. MOSS then moved that the order be discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that the Speaker should take the chair again at nine o'clock, that the House might consider any Bills from the Senate.

Ultimately the hour was fixed for half past nine o'clock.

* * *

MEETING OF THE HOUSE NEXT YEAR

In answer to the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he intended to carry out resolutions of the House last year that the session should open not later than the 1st of February.

The SPEAKER then left the chair.

At the evening session several Bills which had been sent up to the Senate were passed.

The House adjourned at 11.40 p.m. until Monday at 10.30 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 25, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 11 a.m.

Prayers

THE AMNESTY QUESTION

On the resolution of **Mr. MOUSSEAU** for an Address to Her Majesty, praying that a general amnesty be granted to all persons charged with offenses committed during and in connection with the disturbances which occurred in Manitoba in the winter of 1869-1870, being called, it was found that the hon. member was not in his place.

* * *

CONSTITUTION OF THE SENATE

On the order for the House again to go into Committee on the resolution of **Mr. MILLS** with respect to the Senate being called, it was found that the member for Bothwell was absent.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a message from the Senate announcing that their Honours had passed certain Bills without amendment, and the Election Bill with amendments, to which they asked the concurrence of this House.

* * *

ARBITRARY DISMISSAL

Mr. PLUMB asked for information concerning the letting of contracts on the Welland Canal, and the dismissal of Mr. John B. Smith, Superintendent of the eastern section.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there was no superintendent dismissed. Mr. Smith was suspended; but he had no such title as Superintendent of the Eastern Section. There was simply a letter asking that the charges against him should be investigated. There were, however, a number of letters complaining of his conduct, and one particularly complaining of partiality about water lots.

The contracts were not all given out yet. There had been a great deal of difficulty in getting perfectly good security for the performance of the contracts. Section 12 was the only one not given out at present. This section was where the Great Western crosses the canal. The Government were making arrangements with the Company for a temporary bridge. There were two other sections the contracts for which were not quite closed yet.

* * *

RETURN

The SPEAKER laid on the table of the House a return from the Clerk, giving certain particulars in relation to the employees in his office.

No important measures having been received from the Senate, the House took an informal recess till 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

AFTER RECESS

The SPEAKER resumed the chair at 3.25 p.m.

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SALARIES OF PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIALS

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) said he found that several of the employees of the House were receiving less salary than similar officers were paid at Confederation. In fact there was a decrease of no less than $6,300 per annum since Confederation in the salaries of officers of this House, while the Senate's officials had received an increase in the same period.

He moved that the return ordered from the Clerk be referred to the Commissioners for the Internal Economy of the House, with a view to their considering the salaries of the various officers in the two branches of the Legislature, and taking such action thereon as may be deemed necessary.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON, seconded the motion, and expressed his desire that the hard-worked officials of the Lower House should be paid salaries at least as large as the Senate officials.

The motion was carried.

* * *

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Mr. SCATCHERD said he had heard that the appropriation of $500,000 for an extension to the western departmental building was to construct a residence for the Librarian. For his part, he was not prepared to expend such an amount for any such purpose.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the extension was necessary for the accommodation of departmental officers, many of whom had to work in offices temporarily fitted up in the basements of the

buildings and other places utterly unsuited for such purposes. The Librarian would not be furnished with a residence in the departmental buildings.

* * *

ELECTION BILL

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. DORION**, the amendments made by the Senate to the Election Bill were concurred in, the hon. gentleman remarking that this was the second time this session that the Senate had seen fit to interfere with matters peculiarly affecting the right of the House of Commons.

The amendments, one of which was to establish the same franchise in Prince Edward Island as in the other Provinces, were concurred in.

At 4.45 p.m. the House took an informal recess till 10.30 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The SPEAKER resumed the chair at 10.30 p.m.

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BILLS FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER announced that several bills with amendments had been received from the Senate, among them was the Act relating to the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal, which was so amended as to restore the former system of nominating members of the Board.

Hon. Mr. DORION moved concurrence in the amendment. —Carried.

* * *

THE RECIPROCITY NEGOTIATIONS

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked if the Premier could give the House any information about the progress made in the negotiations for a treaty of reciprocity with the United States.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was unable at present to give any information on the subject.

* * *

PROROGATION

The SPEAKER announced that His Excellency would prorogue Parliament at three o'clock tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE moved the adjournment of the House till half past two tomorrow afternoon.

The House adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 26, 1874

The SPEAKER took the chair at 2.40 p.m.

Prayers

SOUTH OXFORD'S MEMBER

Mr. SKINNER, elected in the place of Hon. Mr. Bodwell, was introduced by Hon. Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Irving.

* * *

THE AMNESTY QUESTION

Mr. CARON asked whether it was the intention of the Government to consider the report of the Northwest Committee, with the view of recommending the granting of a general and complete amnesty.

The Premier (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) not being in his place, the question was not answered.

Mr. CARON asked if the Premier would return before three o'clock. He thought it only right, the question having been put on the paper, that he should receive an answer to it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the question was a very important one. He would not like to take the responsibility of answering a question of so much gravity. It would depend upon the tenor of the report of the Committee. He suggested that the hon. gentleman wait till the Premier returned.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he had before asked when the return of the unexpended appropriations for the current year up to the 15th May would be brought down. He considered this return should be laid upon the table of the House before prorogation, because it was currently asserted that there were $4,000,000 of unexpended appropriations, and if this were so, it would demonstrate the inutility of the additional taxation which had been imposed this session.

Mr. CARON said he insisted upon an answer to his question.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said he might say that it was the intention of the Government to consider the report of the Committee with the view of promoting the best interests of the country.

* * *

COERCION OF OFFICIALS

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) asked if the hon. gentleman opposite would be in a position to lay upon the table of the House the letter which it had been alleged had been written by him.

Mr. PLUMB stated he had no doubt the Hon. Minister of Militia, would be very happy to learn, in reply to his question, that the letter, the genuineness of which he (Mr. Plumb) did not pretend to decide upon, was in the hands of the right hon. member for Kingston (Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald). Having been mislaid by the hon. member for Cumberland (Hon. Mr. Tupper) and having been returned too late to be laid on the table of the House, it would be photographed and lithographed for the benefit of the Hon. Minister of Militia and his friends, and the public.

At this juncture the three knocks of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod were heard at the outer door of the chamber.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced a message from the Senate.

The SPEAKER directed that the messenger should be admitted.

Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was then admitted, and he announced that His Excellency the Governor General desired the immediate attendance of the hon. Commons in the chamber of the hon. Senate.

The SPEAKER, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace, and followed by the members of the House, proceeded to the Senate Chamber, where Parliament was prorogued.

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FINAL SITTING—JOINT SESSION

His Excellency the Governor General left Rideau Hall, attended by an escort of cavalry under Captain Sparks, and was received by a guard of honour, consisting of one hundred rank and file of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

On His Excellency arriving at the Parliament Buildings the Ottawa Field Battery, stationed on the western bluff, fired a salute. His Excellency at once proceeded to the Senate Chamber, upon the floor of which a few ladies occupied seats in full dress. The galleries were well filled with spectators.

The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was despatched to the Commons Chamber to summon "the faithful Commons". He shortly afterwards returned, followed by a few members of the Lower Chamber.

The SPEAKER having taken up his position at the bar, the Clerk of the Senate read the following list of bills which had been assented to:

An Act to amend the Act respecting the construction of the Intercolonial Railway.

An Act to amend the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of Criminal Justice in certain cases as respects the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Canadian and Great Northern Telegraph Company.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company.

An Act to consolidate the mortgages and other preferential charges of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada, and for raising further capital and for establishing a Superannuation and Provident Fund Association, and for other purposes.

An Act to incorporate the Niagara Grand Island Bridge Company.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate La Banque d'Hochelaga.

An Act to continue for a limited time certain temporary provisions in the Act respecting the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion.

An Act to amend the Pilotage Act of 1873.

An Act to exempt transports from port and harbour dues.

An Act to incorporate the Lochiel, Hawkesbury and L'Orignal Junction Railway Company.

An Act to incorporate Lamb's Water-Proof Gum Manufacturing Company.

An Act to amend an Act to incorporate the Maritime Warehousing and Dock Company.

An Act to incorporate the Bank of Ottawa.

An Act to amend an Act for the organization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries of Canada.

An Act respecting the extension and application of the Fisheries Act to and in the Provinces of British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, and Manitoba.

An Act further to amend the Act to provide for the appointment of a Port Warden for the Harbour of Montreal.

An Act to authorize the raising of a loan for the construction of certain public works, with the benefit of the Imperial guarantee for a portion thereof.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Confederation Life Association.

An Act to incorporate the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Company.

An Act to incorporate the London and Canada Bank.

An Act to incorporate the International Transportation Association.

An Act to incorporate the Maritime Insurance Company.

An Act to incorporate the Board of Trade of the town of Ingersoll.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Royal Canadian Insurance Company.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the St. Lawrence Tow Boat Company.

An Act to amalgamate the Canadian Telegraph Supply Manufacturing Company (Limited) and the Toronto Manufacturing Company (Limited) under the name of the Electric and Hardware Manufacturing Company (Limited).

An Act to incorporate the Saint Croix Printing and Publishing Company.

An Act respecting the Federal Bank of Canada.

An Act to indemnity Stanislaus Francis Perry for having sat and voted as a member of the House of Commons under the circumstances therein mentioned.

An Act to change the name of the Victoria Bank of Canada to that of the Manufacturers' Bank of Canada.

An Act to amend the Act passed in the thirty-fourth year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act to amend and explain the Act to amend the charter of the Ontario Bank".

An Act to regulate the construction and maintenance of marine electric telegraphs.

An Act to incorporate the Provincial Steamship Company.

An Act further to amend the Act respecting the inspection of steamboats.

An Act to amend the Act 31 Vic., Cap. 44, and other Acts amending the same, and the tariff of duties of Customs imposed by the said Acts, and to alter certain duties of excise.

An Act respecting the Bank of Nova Scotia.

An Act to establish a Military College in one of the garrison towns of Canada.

An Act to declare the intention of the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 30, as regards the subsidy to be allowed to Nova Scotia.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate a Company by the name of Le Crédit Foncier du Bas-Canada.

An Act respecting the crime of libel.

An Act to incorporate the Stadacona Fire and Life Insurance Company.

An Act to extend the time limited for paying in of subscription of stock in the Canada and New York Bridge and Tunnel Company.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the British America Assurance Company, and other Acts affecting the same, and to extend the powers of the said Company.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Imperial Bank.

An Act to authorize the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company to issue preferential mortgage debentures, and for other purposes.

An Act for the removal of obstructions by wrecks and like causes in the navigable waters of Canada, and other purposes relative to wrecks.

An Act to amend an Act to incorporate the Canada Mutual Marine Insurance Company.

An Act for granting certain powers to the Richelieu Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company.

An Act to incorporate the Consolidated Silver Mining Company.

An Act to further amend the Act 31 Vic., Cap 48, entitled "An Act respecting Insurance Companies".

An Act to amend the Act 36 Vic., Cap. 31, for the re-adjustment of the salaries of Judges, and other purposes.

An Act to amend an Act respecting the administration of justice, and for the establishment of a police force in the Northwest Territories.

An Act to amend an Act respecting vagrants.

An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

An Act to amend the Dominion Lands Act.

An Act to authorize Joseph Meunier to build a toll bridge over the River L'Assomption, in the Province of Quebec.

An Act to make better provision for the trial of controverted elections of the members of the House of Commons, and respecting matters connected therewith.

An Act to give certain powers to the Port of Whitby Harbour Company.

An Act to incorporate the Neutral Link Railway Company.

An Act respecting carriers by water.

An Act to extend the powers of the Dominion Telegraph Company.

An Act respecting the issue of bonds by the St. Francis and Mégantic International Railway Company.

An Act to enable the Great Western Railway Company to further extend and improve its connections, and to authorize and confirm the issue of certain debentures of stock.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Bank of Manitoba.

An Act to attach the Village of Richmond Hill to the electoral district of the West riding of the County of York.

An Act to incorporate the St. John's Board of Trade, Province of Quebec.

An Act to authorize the incorporation of Boards of Trade in the Dominion.

An Act to incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada.

An Act to incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada.

An Act to incorporate the Royal Canadian Chemical Fire Engine Company.

An Act to impose license duties on compounders of spirits, amend the Act respecting Inland Revenue, and to prevent the adulteration of food, drink and drugs.

An Act to authorize the purchase of the pier or breakwater at Cow Bay, Nova Scotia, and to provide for its maintenance.

An Act to make further provision for the management of Permanent Building Societies carrying on business in the Province of Ontario.

An Act for avoiding doubts as to the application of the Act 32 and 33 Vic., Cap. 35, to the District of Algoma.

An Act to extend certain Acts relating to the prompt administration of justice in criminal matters to the Province of Manitoba.

An Act respecting the Canada Southern Railway Company.

An Act to authorize the advance of a certain sum to the Province of British Columbia for the construction of a graving dock at Esquimalt, and for other purposes.

An Act to incorporate the Rouge Boom Company.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Quebec Frontier Railway Company.

An Act to enlarge and extend the powers of the Montreal Credit Company.

An Act to incorporate the Merchants' Marine Insurance Company.

An Act to incorporate the Neepigon and Manitoba Railway Company.

An Act to incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway Company.

An Act to incorporate the Anglo-Canadian Mortgage and Investment Company (Limited).

An Act respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion lands in Manitoba.

An Act further to amend the Patent Act of 1872.

An Act to authorize Corporations and Institutions incorporated without the limits of Canada to lend and invest moneys therein.

An Act to authorize the shareholders of the Western Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society to change the name of the said Society.

An Act further to continue for a limited time the Insolvency Act of 1869 and the Act amending the same and for other purposes.

An Act to amend the Act 27 Vic., Cap. 49, incorporating the Lower Canada Investment and Agency Company (Limited).

An Act to incorporate the Great North West Railway Company.

An Act to incorporate the Huron and Trent Valley Canal Company.

An Act to extend certain Acts therein mentioned to the Province of Prince Edward Island.

An Act to authorize the shareholders of the Canada Permanent Building and Savings Society to change the name of the said Society.

An Act to amend the Acts respecting the Militia and Defence of the Dominion of Canada, and to extend the same to the Province of Prince Edward Island.

An Act to amend an Act to make further provisions as to duties of Customs in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories and further to restrain the importation or manufacture of intoxicating liquors into or in the Northwest Territories.

An Act to extend to the Province of British Columbia certain of the criminal laws now in force in other Provinces of the Dominion.

An Act to incorporate the Alliance Assurance Association of Canada.

An Act to amend an Act respecting the Public Works of Canada.

An Act to incorporate the Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Company.

An Act to amend the law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes and the stamps thereon.

An Act respecting the elections of members of the House of Commons.

An Act to provide for the appointment of harbour masters for certain ports in the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island.

An Act to amend the Acts of incorporation of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Loan and Savings Society.

An Act to provide for the appointment of port wardens at certain ports of the Dominion.

An Act to authorize the transfer of the Windsor branch of the Nova Scotia Railway to the Western Counties Railway Company.

An Act to enable the Montreal Northern Colonization Railway Company to build a bridge over the Ottawa River.

An Act to incorporate the Colonial Building and Investment Association.

An Act to incorporate the Lumber Exchange of St. John, New Brunswick.

An Act to provide for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

An Act respecting the Albion Mines Savings Bank.

Parliament was then prorogued with the following Speech from the Throne:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"I am glad that at a comparatively early period of the season I am able to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament.

I thank you for the devotion you have shown to the public interests in the earnest prosecution of the work of the session.

I congratulate you on having passed an Election law adapted to the requirements of the respective Provinces, and I trust that this law, with the amended Act for the trial of Controverted Elections, will result in securing for the future pure and peaceable elections.

The measure you have passed, providing for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway will enable my Government to proceed as soon as practicable with such portions of the work as are necessary to secure communication with the interior and with British Columbia.

I hope that the law for the establishment of a Military College will be found to fulfil its design, in securing a class of thoroughly educated officers for the Militia service.

I trust that the other measures you have adopted with so much unanimity will likewise prove beneficial to the country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I thank you for the readiness with which you have made provision for an anticipated deficiency, and granted the supplies for the Public Service.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I trust that the measures I have caused to be taken for the preservation of the peace in the Northwest Territories will be effectual in preventing the spirit of lawlessness so much to be feared in these vast unsettled regions, and in maintaining friendly relations with the Indian tribes.

The negotiations in progress relative to the compensation due to Canada under the Treaty of Washington will, I hope, realize our just expectations.

We have reason to rejoice that within our borders are peace and prosperity; and I pray that the country may continuously enjoy these invaluable blessings."

The SPEAKER of the Senate then informed the members of the Senate and the House of Commons that the Governor General had prorogued Parliament until Monday, July 6, 1874.

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FIRST SESSION – THIRD PARLIAMENT

March 26, 1874 to May 26, 1874

Prepared under the direction of the
Library of Parliament

The presentation of a member's name is accompanied by the constituency and political affiliation in abbreviated form: C: Conservative; L: Liberal; Ind.: Independent; L-C: Liberal-Conservative; Anti-Con: Anti-Confederate.

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