

OTTAWA LETTER.

Four Important Changes in the Yukon Tramway Contract,

Which the Government Would Not Have Made But for the Insistence of the Opposition.

Hon. Mr. Blair Not Responsible in Any Great Degree for the Mammoth Gift to Mackenzie and Mann; the Speeches Showed That He Had Been Forced to Swallow It.

OTTAWA, March 7.—The last week of the Yukon debate, as far as the second reading is concerned, is commencing, and the discussion may be well through by the time this letter is printed. The members of the government press are beginning to charge the opposition with obstruction. The charge comes with only a moderately good grace from gentlemen who in the alleged interests of the country have been known to delay and discuss government measures for ten or twelve weeks. The Yukon bill is a measure of enormous importance, as in the opinion of its opponents it looks up from the public practically the whole mineral wealth of a district which the government's own officers have reported to be probably the richest in the world. It can hardly be said that three weeks' discussion of a measure like this in a house of over 200 members is an unduly "protracted meeting."

It may be that some of the speakers do not add much to what has been said, but the member who feels that he ought to be speaking is obliged to be his own judge of that matter. He is the representative of a body of Canadian citizens, and it is safe to say that every member of parliament has received many letters from his own constituents asking him to oppose this measure. Probably some member will not carry out this request, but those who do so will take their own way to give effect to the opinions of the people in their locality.

The action of the United States senate is so embarrassing that the government takes refuge in blaming the Canadian opposition party for it. It is, however, pretty safe to say that the liberal party in Canada has its friends in the United States senate where the conservatives have one. For years the United States senators have been hobnobbing with the leaders of the party now in power at Ottawa. If the senators have formed the opinion that the Yukon bill is a concession to the United States fishermen, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his followers have themselves to blame for it. The United States senators learned long since that they could not play any such game with the late government.

The ministers and their supporters are starting out to claim that the delay in passing the Yukon bill has led to the United States threats of withholding bonded privileges on the Stikine river. But one would think that it is much better to know the worst that the United States congress proposes to do before the country is committed to the construction of this road. If the United States has the power to make that road useless, the best thing this country can do is to deprive them of the power by leaving the road unbuild. It was mistaken tactics for the United States senators to show their hand too soon. After the country had given away the mineral wealth of the Yukon for the construction of the Stikine railway, the obstruction of traffic by that route would have been a heavy blow. Now that parliament knows what it can expect, it can act accordingly. We have heard the assurance of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Sifton that our relations with the United States are better than they ever were before. It seems to be time for some convincing proof of this supposed state of affairs.

It would perhaps be a little risky to make a conjecture as to the vote. One conservative member has announced his intention of voting for it. Some government members intimate that they expect another supporter from the opposition ranks of Ontario. The two opposition members from the city of Victoria are said to be influenced to some extent by the fact that their own constituency will be the gainer, for the time being at least, by the early construction of the road, and that the people of Victoria are anxious to secure a route from the Pacific coast, lest the country should decide on a railroad by way of Edmonton. On the other hand one opposition member has given notice of his opposition to the bill, and two other western liberals are known to be opposed to it. Whether they may feel free to vote against the second reading remains to be seen. There is also a good deal of opposition among the Ontario supporters of the government, but while it finds ready expression in the lobbies and hotels, I rather expect that it will be inarticulate on the day the division is taken.

At all events the house will pass the second reading, and in due time, if the government does not withdraw the measure, it will reach the senate. Its fate there is absolutely uncertain. The majority of the senators are strongly opposed to the bill and the chances would seem to favor the six months' hoist. There are some conservatives who are perhaps not as

patriotic as they ought to be in taking the ground that it would be good tactics to pass the bill and let the government take the consequences, which they believe will be disastrous to the ministry. But as yet the feeling would appear to be that it is the duty of the senate, as a branch of the legislature, to deal squarely with this measure as it affects the country.

Meanwhile Mr. Tarte is trying to frighten the members of that scarlet chamber. Every day the paper which Greenhalghs bought for Tarte's sons, is calling for a reform of the senate, and scarcely an article is printed which does not suggest that the fate of the upper house depends upon the treatment of this bill by the senators. Mr. Tarte, whatever his faults may be, is no fool, and perhaps he has his eye on some particular senators from his own province, on whose timidity he feels that he may safely count. Of course there is no probability of carrying out Mr. Tarte's threats. On the contrary, he would himself be the most strenuous opponent of any scheme that would deprive the government of the power to send its friends to the red room. It is to this patronage that Mr. Tarte owes his own seat. Where would he be himself if the senate had been so reformed that he could not have got a seat after his own defeat by appointing a member of the house of commons to the other chamber? Mr. Blair has the same reason for a kindly feeling toward the senate, and as there are probably a dozen members of parliament who have the promise of a senatorship, it is not likely that this valuable piece of patronage will be recklessly flung away.

One of the members who occasionally strolls over to the other end of the building and takes a look at the red upholstery, is Mr. Yeo of Prince Edward Island. Since the death of Mr. Perry the Prince Edward Island senatorship has come near to the other Prince county member, and when he surveys the premises he is at least in the opinion that he is viewing the place where he must shortly sit. The statement made in the government press that Mr. Perry had refused the senatorship is now explained by the announcement that the refusal took place long ago, when the conservatives were in power. It is possible that the late government may have offered Mr. Perry this honor, seeing that it is a seat for an Acadian. But it is well known that Mr. Perry would gladly have accepted it on the death of Senator Arsenault and that the present government did not give it to him.

Meanwhile West Prince is vacant and the Speaker has done his part towards calling on the election. He could not do less than issue his writ, for the law requires this much of him. But the government is able to make delays. By refusing to appoint a returning officer and to fix the date of the voting, Sir Louis Davies can control the situation. It is supposed that the minister of marine is anxious for delay for two reasons. In the first place, there is the danger of losing the riding, which is a very close one. Again, the event will bring to a crisis the affair of the senatorship. Mr. Yeo will naturally want the two Princes to be dealt with at the same time, and if he allows the opportunity of the West Prince election to go by his own goose will be ready for the table.

OTTAWA, March 8.—Before the house met yesterday there was a whisper around the corridors that the opposition leader, the opposition members and the Tories generally were about to receive a severe castigation. They were to be accused of inciting the United States congress to make trouble with Canada, and were to be thoroughly rebuked for their unwise and unwise objects of contempt and shame to the country over. Nobody knew exactly how it was to come about, but the ministerial members were significantly intimating that the minister of marine was "loaded for bear." When the house met the method became apparent. Instead of waiting for the opposition, Mr. Russell of Halifax began to question the government about the bill before the United States senate. He quoted Senator Hansborough as saying that the dominion government would yield on the fisheries question in view of the concessions made by the bill.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said there was no warrant for Hansborough's statement, as no negotiations had been taken place. Then the leader of the opposition stated the position to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and asked him what he proposed to do about it. A few days ago the premier had said it was impossible to consider that the legislature of the United States would pass laws in violation of the treaty, but here was a fact with which the government was face to face, that the United States senate by a vote of 24 to 14 had adopted a resolution which might render the Stikine route impassable to Canadian commerce. The senate bill also demanded that the Canadian government should amend its domestic regulations in several respects as the price of securing the Stikine highway. Sir Charles then wanted to know whether the government intended to put off the measure which might place the country at the mercy of such legislation as was proposed at Washington. He closed his remarks with these patriotic and dignified words: "I am quite certain that my right honorable friend and his colleagues will receive the hearty support of both sides of the house in taking that manly and independent course which is absolutely due to the character and position of this country, and in devising such means as will effectually prevent our being subjected to the base humiliation of submitting to such a measure as the senate of the United States proposes to dictate to the government and the parliament of Canada."

So far the proceedings were kindly enough, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier responded to Sir Charles Turner with similar courtesy. He declared that the government of Canada would sub-

mit to no imposition by the United States, and asserted that the right of free navigation on the Stikine belonged to this country and could not be taken away by any action of the United States. He did not propose to be diverted from his course, but would go on in his policy already declared. Sir Wilfrid up to this point was quite defiant, but before he finished he took another turn.

Though he declared the United States government could not interfere he seemed to be quite of the opinion that they might and would interfere. Though he contended that the senate bill could not close to Canadian commerce the approach to the Stikine river, he expressed a strong desire that the senate bill should not become law. Though he had declared that the Stikine route was all right, he immediately went on to say that the government did not intend to depend upon that, but would push on the road from its western terminus to a Canadian seaport, thus abandoning the river altogether.

Turning to the opposition leader, Sir Wilfrid said that parliament must go on with this bill, because there was nothing else to do. If the opposition proposed an alternative he would be glad to consider it, but Sir Charles smilingly remarked that he was quite prepared, if the minister would give him a chance to state it. The premier gave him a chance, and Sir Charles observed that the only object this bill had was to give an all-Canadian route as quickly as possible. It was now shown that he did not accomplish this, and therefore the urgency argument was at an end. This being so, it became necessary to secure a genuine all-Canadian route in such time as might be necessary. He would undertake that for less than he would pay for the construction of this short railway, he will get a road constructed on Canadian territory all the way from Teslin lake to the Pacific coast. Sir Wilfrid objected that this was not an alternative, because the government itself proposed to extend the road to the Pacific. But Sir Wilfrid omitted an essential part of Sir Charles' proposition. He proposed to do it for the same price that the government is paying for 150 miles of comparatively easy road on the Stikine. As the remaining part comprises from 250 to 300 miles of railway through a mountainous country, the Stikine routes are so far different that Sir Wilfrid's involves at least three times the cost of the other. As there will be no more gold lands in the Yukon that a company will be likely to accept after Mackenzie and Mann have spent six years selecting a route, the other subsidy must be paid in cash.

This point was brought out by Rufus Foye later in the discussion, when he remarked that if a company was given the site of ten thousand square miles of the pick of the Yukon for 150 miles of tramway between two points, and another, they would probably grant a good many million for 250 miles of heavy road. Sir Charles' proposition was a very close thing. He concluded the premier in relation to the United States, and reminded him that he needed to set himself right after having been for many years setting himself wrong. If Canada were to make humiliating concessions it was Sir Wilfrid and his comrades who gave them that impression. For years they had assailed the rights of the Canadian fishermen on the Atlantic. Sir Wilfrid in his denunciations denounced our treatment of the fishermen as uncivilized and barbarous. Thomas he had declared that the treaty of 1813, which Canada was enforcing, was a relic of past ages which civilization ought to ignore. Still before he became premier, Sir Wilfrid had on interviews to the Chicago press, declared that to support Senator Hansborough's proposition.

Mr. Foster and other members mentioned interviews but did not quote fully. If they had done so they would have shown that Sir Wilfrid himself who proposed to give the bonding privilege with the fishery question and to concede the United States claim on the Atlantic coast. "Some time ago," he said, "when by the North American treaty, I took the opportunity of asking the question should be adjusted in a friendly way becoming an enlightened and friendly people, by a simple process of give and take. Now the simple process of give and take, except that it is more give than take, is proposed at Washington, and the senator has no less authority for it than Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself. In this interview Sir Wilfrid suggested that the United States partial control of the Canadian canal system on the condition that they should assist in deepening the water. Then he concluded that a trade arrangement might be made and a general settlement adopted in which the deep water ways, the fisheries, and the coasting trade of the lakes should be taken up and dealt with together. "I object," he said, "that the bonding privilege had been recently discussed by the United States congress. That question should be taken up along with the rest, and the alien labor law should also be included."

Well, Senator Hansborough has taken the premier at his word, and is grouping the bonding privilege with the coast fisheries together. And yet the premier regrets that the senators are misled as to the Canadian policy. But Mr. Foster was glad to find that the premier is now determined to stand by Canadian rights. "Sir, he will have to," said Mr. Foster, "now that he is at the head of the government and is no longer irresponsible." "No man in his position," Mr. Foster said, "could afford to do otherwise. The country would be delighted to find the Canadian leaders of both parties agreed that Canadian rights must be upheld."

But, said Mr. Foster, it was only

two or three days ago that the three ministers told us how friendly the United States was. They scoured us with whips and would have scourged us with scorpions if they could have found them, for expressing some apprehensions. Now the premier comes and tells us that though we have a treaty he has doubts whether it can be made useful to us in this emergency, and he proposes to build a long railroad because of that doubt. Still they will not give up Mackenzie and Mann. They look up the mining lands, without knowing whether the price paid for them will do us any good. We pay the best part of our northern heritage for urgency, and obtain a road which may be useless and idle for a year after it is built. Give us your whole scheme. Let us know what we have to meet and what it will cost. We will find us as strong and resolute as you are in defence of our rights, but tell us the whole of it and let us deal with it at once.

Then came in Sir Louis Davies with his castigation. Sir Louis is always most entertaining when he is most terrible. No man can assume fiercer tones and denounce with a more tremendous manner than Sir Louis Davies. But there is something ineffably mistaken in his wrath. He is known to be a most amiable man, and does not take himself much more seriously in his rages than other people take him. So when he puts on the angry style the opposition are in the habit of laughing. They do not do it contemptuously, because they know that he will join them in the laugh when the thing is over. Another characteristic of Sir Louis is his utter contempt for truth when he is in one of the furious moods. To speak plainly, he will use the most violent falsehoods energetically, vehemently and repeatedly without giving the slightest outward sign of remorse. His scorn of the party across the house is deep reverence compared with his scorn of facts.

Sir Louis began his factious oration by declaring that the voice of faction should now be hushed. The craven cry raised by the leader of the opposition should be preserved as a mischievous relic of the past. They should only object to the gift of the wealth of the country to Mackenzie and Mann, to place this country more or less under the control of the United States. But Sir Louis roared away, while the minister across the room as he closed his mouth, Sir Charles and Mr. Foster were "giving aid and comfort to the enemy," that they were "crying out surrender," and "playing into the hands of our rivals."

But before he got this far he gave the house an exhibition of the other feature of his character as an orator. He declared solemnly that in 1888 Sir Charles Tupper, returning from Washington after a negotiatory treaty of that year, had made a speech in this house in which he castigated Mr. Foster, then minister of marine and fisheries. According to Sir Louis, Sir Charles had accused Mr. Foster of improperly accepting the treaty of fisheries laws. He had even gone far as to tell Mr. Foster in the house that he had nearly brought the two countries to the verge of war. Some one suggested that Sir Louis should write the words, but he declared that he did not need Hansard. He also mentioned that Mr. Foster looked much cut up at the time.

When he was through after having made a good deal of that point, Dr. Montague offered some observations. He remarked that many things had been charged against the leader of the opposition, but even his strongest opponents had always given him credit for upholding the interests of the country. The doctor remarked that the conservative leaders, in view of the record of the other party, did not require to be lectured on the subject of loyalty. Then he calmly took Sir Louis in hand and read the language of Sir Charles Tupper in regard to the speech of 1888 in regard to the administration of the department of marine and fisheries. Every time that Sir Charles in this speech had mentioned the department of marine and fisheries, he had done so in a friendly way, and he had done so in a friendly way, and he had done so in a friendly way.

While he did make the remark about the strained relations, he was careful to say that this was due to a misapprehension on the part of the United States, and not to any wrong action of the department of marine and fisheries. On the contrary, he was emphatically and repeatedly that Mr. Foster had enforced the treaty in the same spirit and manner as Mr. Mitchell under similar circumstances, and that both would have done wrong had they acted otherwise. Sir Louis did not dispute this. This exposure did not surprise the house, because Sir Louis Davies is very well known to most of the members, but it led Sir Louis to call for the Hansard to justify himself.

This is what Sir Louis Davies read from Sir Charles Tupper's speech: "I would not like, I confess, to be tried before the house by the ground taken by my friend the minister of justice (Sir John Thompson) and the minister of marine and fisheries."

Now it will be remembered that Sir Charles Tupper was defending his own treaty, in which some things had been conceded for which the two ministers mentioned had concessions and naturally made the remark that he did not care to have the treaty judged on its merits on the grounds of the previous contention.

Now let us take the whole paragraph from which Sir Louis Davies strived to get a sentence, or rather part of a sentence, which he used to inform the house that in diplomatic intercourse it is customary, it is right, for representatives of the government to state the strongest and most advanced ground that they possibly can sustain in relation to every question, and I would not like, I confess, to be tried before this house on the ground taken

by my honorable friends, the minister of justice and the minister of marine and fisheries. The ground they took was quite right. They were authorized by the strict terms of the treaty in taking the strong ground which they did. They would have failed in their duty to this house if, called upon to deal with the question as a matter of diplomatic intercourse and discussion between the government of the United States and Canada, they had not taken the extreme contention that the literal terms of the treaty of 1813 would warrant. They did their duty in adopting that course."

Of course Dr. Montague was on his feet as soon as Sir Louis sat down, and of course he read the whole sentence, and of course the whole house joined in a burst of laughter, during which the minister of marine gave evidence of confusion. But after all, when we consider that Sir Louis Davies is a knight and a member of the government of Canada, and that he was discussing a grave international question, was it anything to laugh at? The debate went on and several interesting speeches followed, but that will have to be another story.

OTTAWA, March 8.—Returning to Monday's debate, it may be mentioned that Mr. Fitzpatrick announced another change in the contract. Originally there was no covenant for the operation of the road. When the agreement was made the contractor was obliged to operate. This is the fourth important change that the opposition has forced the government to adopt. Sir Richard Cartwright also addressed the house that evening in a vigorous manner. His speech should be remembered as the one addressed by a minister which did not contain an announcement of a new change in the contract. It was notable also for the spirited tone in which he spoke of the United States. He declared that the senate of the United States have utterly and entirely mistaken their position. They have gone utterly and entirely outside of any rights which can possibly accrue to them, and the government of Canada are not going to be dragged into two little mistakes, as for instance when he accused the opposition members of "introducing a mischievous discussion." Mr. Davin reminded him that the discussion was introduced by his own follower, Mr. Russell, and Sir Richard then turned on Sir Charles Tupper and pitched into him for venturing "to give his advice to the government as to what they should do." Sir Charles gravely reminded the minister that he had only made his proposition when the premier had invited him to do so. The premier had directly challenged him to produce an alternative scheme, and he had ventured to do it. Again Sir Richard said that Sir Charles' words were perfectly aware that by the capitulation of the treaty of Washington we greatly departed from the rights which Canada had under the former treaty. Sir Charles Hibbert made a remark, whereupon Sir Richard said "Does the honorable gentleman contract to be a gentleman?" Sir Charles Hibbert replied "I was simply remarking to my friend beside me that the minister was contradicting his juvenile colleagues who took a different view of the question."

In a short address Mr. McInerney showed how vain had been the boasting of Mr. Sifton, who had been proved to be wrong in nearly all the contentions of his five hour speech. He strongly urged the government not to concede the momentary idea of yielding any of the rights of the coast fishermen. Mr. Davin on commencing his speech deliberately announced his intention of outdoing Mr. Davies, and when the minister of marine seemed to be doubtful of his power to do so, Mr. Davin introduced an appropriate quotation: "Once on Africa's solitary shore, An angry lion made a dreadful roar; Another lion made another roar, And the first lion thought the last a bore."

The greater part of Sir Charles Hibbert's address was either a discussion of the international position in respect to treaties or a criticism of the terms of the contract. It was followed throughout by the house, and is regarded as a strong criticism of the government's position. He took the responsibility of the contract, subject to the contradiction of Mr. Schreiber nor any other of the principal officers of the department of railways had anything to do with drafting this bill. If they had, the interests of the country would have been better guarded. Mr. Blair Charles Hibbert ventured to say to the solicitor general that neither he nor the leading men in the department of justice had assisted in preparing the contract. Otherwise it would have been more carefully drawn up. Mr. Fitzpatrick offered no contradiction. Again Sir Charles remarked that he would venture to say that neither Dr. Dawson nor Surveyor Ogilvie had been consulted in the grant of land to the company, although they knew more about the country than any one else. Here also he was not contradicted.

It was also pointed out that the whole argument of the ministers was contradictory. They urged the construction of the road as rapidly as possible, yet they justified the grant of land by arguing for hours that the whole thing was a gamble, and that probably the land would be of no value at all. They had brought down a contract which they were prepared to change in many particulars. They claimed the free use of the Stikine river, and denied the power of the United States to intervene, and yet proposed to build a new line of 200 miles to the coast, because they were not sure of the Stikine and were afraid of United States intervention. To show how utterly careless the ministers were, Sir Charles referred to Sifton's reply to the statement that Commissioner Walsh was annoyed up somewhere in the mountain passes instead of being at Dawson. Mr. Sifton had said that Walsh was not sent to Dawson, but was between Drea and Dawson, where he ought to be, and indignantly demanded what in the name of sense he was doing at Dawson. After Mr. Sifton's announcement that Walsh was carrying out his instructions by not going to Dawson, the prime minister had come to be, and has announced that he would have been there before if he had not been disappointed in making connections.

There was interest in Mr. Tarte's speech before he began, because Mr. Tarte has had a very interesting career, and because he very seldom speaks without talking about himself. When he does not speak of himself he talks of his two sons, the grateful friends of Mr. Greenshields. But Mr. Tarte was disappointing last night. He had very little to say about himself, except that he used to be a private and was sorry to see the conservatives departing from their progressive traditions. Mr. Tarte has a free and easy way of talking about public money, even as he has a free and easy way of dealing with the public purse, a few million acres here or there amount to nothing. Perhaps we might be giving too much land, he said, but think of the ten million dollars of trade and the hundred thousand men who are going into the country. If we did not build this road all this trade would go to the United States.

Neither Mr. Tarte nor the other ministers have explained how this railroad is going to take the trade away from the United States. Its ocean terminus is a United States port. It does not propose to refuse the carriage of American goods. No reason is shown or even hinted at why United States merchant cannot use the road as well as anybody else. On the contrary, he has advantages over the Canadians. He can store his goods at the American port at Wrangle and transport to lighters under the American flag. The terminus of the road is nearly hundreds of miles to the agricultural food producing of the northern states than to the farm lands of Canada, which produce a surplus of goods for export. Mr. Oliver made this clear enough in his address last week. The action of the United States senate has made it very clear, and the government now admits that this route cannot be relied upon as a Canadian means of supply to the Yukon. The admission is made in the programme of the new railroad to Port Simpson.

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But Mr. Tarte holds other terrors over the country. He says that we are liable to lose the country itself as well as the trade. Without this railway it would be impossible to retain the Yukon district under the British flag. If 40,000 American miners in that country should revolt against British rule, we would be utterly helpless. No man would attempt to say that we could control them. Mr. Tarte did not explain how we should control them with a railroad leading through United States waters. The American miners would not be likely to hoist the United States flag in the Yukon without the sympathy of the country from which they came. If they had that sympathy we cannot suppose that Great Britain or Canada would be allowed to carry troops in through 100 miles of United States territory to get to this precious railroad of ours. The whole thing is utterly absurd, almost as absurd as Mr. Tarte himself.

But then Mr. Tarte is not going to allow Mr. Blair to escape. Some remarks have been made to the effect that the construction of railways was opposed original to this scheme, and that the minister himself did not sign it. He was away at the time, as he explained, though Mr. Tarte declares that he did not go until after all the conditions were settled, and the whole scheme completed. In fact it was only on the day the contract was signed that he was called away. "Every member of the government is responsible for it," shouted Mr. Tarte, "and I tell you that it will be carried through." It is true enough that every member is responsible, but Mr. Tarte knows very well that every member was originally in favor of it. He also would say if he told the whole truth that Mr. Blair was opposed to the contract until he was overborne by his colleagues. While these letters do not show any special favor to the minister of railways, there is every disposition to be absolutely fair to him, and it may be stated again that this is not Mr. Blair's scheme, and that he ought not to be blamed for it further than is involved in his allowing it to be forced upon him. It is true that he has spoken in the support, but here again fairness compels it to be said that he supported it in the two feeblest speeches that he has made in parliament since he came to Ottawa. He did it so badly that he may be excused for doing it at all.

RUSSIAN HATRE A war between Eng power would be rega luck by England. We would find Englan try with which we w end, endeavoring th defeat or victory. For we do commensate w second-rate power, we race was against St. Petersburg.

HEART Raised in an Instan Dr. Agnew's Cur A Potent Liquid Case Too Acute fo Relief and Certain of "For fifteen year from heart attack, on the hands of one whom the only cause was that I was liable moment. I had many made by Dr. Agnew's was induced to try a b to my surprise the v immediate relief. I before the doctor had the dropsy, which had had disappeared, and my second bottle I felt well." Mrs. John J. J.

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But Mr. Tarte holds other terrors over the country. He says that we are liable to lose the country itself as well as the trade. Without this railway it would be impossible to retain the Yukon district under the British flag. If 40,000 American miners in that country should revolt against British rule, we would be utterly helpless. No man would attempt to say that we could control them. Mr. Tarte did not explain how we should control them with a railroad leading through United States waters. The American miners would not be likely to hoist the United States flag in the Yukon without the sympathy of the country from which they came. If they had that sympathy we cannot suppose that Great Britain or Canada would be allowed to carry troops in through 100 miles of United States territory to get to this precious railroad of ours. The whole thing is utterly absurd, almost as absurd as Mr. Tarte himself.

But then Mr. Tarte is not going to allow Mr. Blair to escape. Some remarks have been made to the effect that the construction of railways was opposed original to this scheme, and that the minister himself did not sign it. He was away at the time, as he explained, though Mr. Tarte declares that he did not go until after all the conditions were settled, and the whole scheme completed. In fact it was only on the day the contract was signed that he was called away. "Every member of the government is responsible for it," shouted Mr. Tarte, "and I tell you that it will be carried through." It is true enough that every member is responsible, but Mr. Tarte knows very well that every member was originally in favor of it. He also would say if he told the whole truth that Mr. Blair was opposed to the contract until he was overborne by his colleagues. While these letters do not show any special favor to the minister of railways, there is every disposition to be absolutely fair to him, and it may be stated again that this is not Mr. Blair's scheme, and that he ought not to be blamed for it further than is involved in his allowing it to be forced upon him. It is true that he has spoken in the support, but here again fairness compels it to be said that he supported it in the two feeblest speeches that he has made in parliament since he came to Ottawa. He did it so badly that he may be excused for doing it at all.

RUSSIAN HATRE A war between Eng power would be rega luck by England. We would find Englan try with which we w end, endeavoring th defeat or victory. For we do commensate w second-rate power, we race was against St. Petersburg.

HEART Raised in an Instan Dr. Agnew's Cur A Potent Liquid Case Too Acute fo Relief and Certain of "For fifteen year from heart attack, on the hands of one whom the only cause was that I was liable moment. I had many made by Dr. Agnew's was induced to try a b to my surprise the v immediate relief. I before the doctor had the dropsy, which had had disappeared, and my second bottle I felt well." Mrs. John J. J.

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was a gamble, the land would be They had brought which they were pre- care use of the ened the power of to intervene, and lid a new line of ad because they Stikine and were ates intervention. careless the come- aries referred to the statement that in was snowed up ountain passes in- Dawson. Mr. Sit- aires was not sent as between the eyes he ought to be, manded what in he would be doing Mr. Sifton's an- ish was carrying by not going to minister had com- has announced been there before disappointed in

in Mr. Tarte's kan, because Mr. interesting career y seldom speaks t himself. When himself he talks grateful friends

But Mr. Tarte st night. He had out himself, ex- to be a conserva- see the conserva- their progres- Tarte has a free ing about public s a free and easy it. As for public res here or there Perhaps we mian land, he ten million dol- hundred thous- going into the to build this road go to the United

nor the other dned how this take the trade States. Its United States propose to refuse ean goods. No can hinted at why cannot use anybody else. On advantages over can store this in port at Wra- ghters under the terms of miles to supply of the farm lands oduce a surplus Mr. Oliver made is address of last the United States still clearer, and admits that this upon as a Can- to the Yukon, ide in the pro- railroad to Port

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is not going to ape. Some re- to the effect always was op- scheme and if did not sign the time as he Tarte declares l after all the and the whole act it was only t was signed upon as "Evil- ment is respon- Mr. Tarte, and ligh that every but Mr. Tarte of every mem- ever made. He old the whole as was overborne he these letters al favor to the there by every tuted again that scheme, and be blamed for lved in his al- on him. It is in the sup- nliness compels supported it in es that he has badly that he g at all.

losed with a Morrison of Mr. Oliver of Morrison is a who who has Pacific coast, fence as any- legislation. His grew out of er that British es much sur- New West- at his province abilities, and maligning the narrowness of waxed sharp raptions and finally termin-

ated by an adjournment of the house. The dispute was enjoyed on the oppo- sition side the more as the two con- stanters are ardent supporters of the ministry.

Mr. Blair is not the same man now that he was a fortnight ago or a month ago. In your recent issue appeared a letter of his promising the politicians a million and a half would be placed in the estimates for the Trent Valley canal. This was for use in the Ontario elections and it was used for all it was worth. But on Friday when Mr. Gillies wanted to know about the Trent Valley canal the minister of railways said: "Depart- mentally a decision has been arrived at on the subject of these repairs, but I doubt the expediency, if the honor- able member will pardon me, of making any more explicit statements be- fore the estimates are brought down." There is no election going on in Cape Breton and consequently no letter of Mr. Blair's with his picture over the top of it is in circulation here. But Mr. Blair did not doubt the expedi- dency with a statement that no in- structions were given to Walsh at all. But Walsh ultimately arrived at Daw- son, where Mr. Sifton says he had no case before the court. Mr. Blair brought down of writing letters and sending telegrams concerning locomo- tives at Kingston or Trent Valley canal or any other works.

The Yukon debate has taken away the private members' days for the time being. In the meantime private members are accumulating on the notice paper a number of resolutions which they propose to ask the house to adopt. For instance, Mr. Reid pro- poses a bonus of one cent a pound on creamery butter exported. Mr. Davin wants the house to resolve that good faith on the part of the present gov- ernment would compel them to re- move the duty on farm machinery. Mr. Moore proposes that the duty on oil should be reduced to three cents. Mr. Jamieson wants to appoint a board of railway commissioners. Mr. Casgrain thinks it expedient to re- vise the salaries paid to judges. Mr. McNell has a resolution in favor of a preferential custom arrangement be- tween Great Britain and her colonies. Mr. Rogers proposes to abolish gov- ernment house. Mr. Moines asks for the establishment of a mint in Can- ada. Mr. Balcourt demands a national museum. Mr. Kavanagh proposes a resolution in favor of granting a bonus per quintal on all fish caught by Canadians in deep sea waters and sold to foreign countries, this being necessary to enable our fishermen to compete with the bounty-fed fisher- men of France. It is not likely that all these resolutions will be debated, but a number of them will afford in- teresting themes for discussion when the private members get their day again.

COAL TO BURN.
Andrew Carnegie After the Upper Canadian Trade.

A Big Fleet of Coal Boats from Connecticut Ontario—Wants Something to Ship on His Cars Returning Empty for Ore.

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 15.—The new Pittsburg, Bessemer and Lake Erie railroad, built by Andrew Carnegie to bring ore from the lakes to his furnace here, is reaching out to control the coal trade of Upper Canada. This is said to be one of Andrew Car- negie's great ambitions, and from pres- ent indications he is likely to see his hopes realized. In the conduct of the P. B. and L. E. R., as in the management of the Carnegie Steel company, nothing is done that would not be found to be profitable. He utilizes the cars on their return journey. Therefore, the Carnegie interest determined that, general freight being available, coal should provide the necessary freight.

The Bessemer line from the Pittsburg coal district to Connecticut lake is a short and direct one, and the coal boats will carry the coal straight across the lake to the Canadian shore.

The coal is to be obtained in part from the New York and Cleveland Gas Coal com- pany's mines, near Turle creek, and yes- terday the Bessemer fleet consisted of the day whereby they purchased the Monocahola Southern railroad. This road, when completed, will tap one of the richest and largest coal fields near Pittsburg.

By this means about 20,000 acres of virgin coal will be developed and the acqui- sition of the Bessemer will help considerably the plan to control the Canadian coal market.

THE FEELINGS OF ENGLAND.
PARIS, March 11.—The Temps says it thinks the reports in the American newspapers of the interview of the British ambassador, Sir Julian Pauncefote, with President McKinley "were intended to excite the feelings of England, to which country the Amer- icans are now making advances, which strangely contrasts with their previous haughty attitude towards their British cousins."

RUSSIAN HATRED OF BRITAIN.
A war between Russia and another great power would be regarded as a sort of good luck by England. We may be certain that we would find England backing up the country with which we had engaged fight- ing, endeavoring thus to profit either by defeat or victory. For this reason, if ever we do commence a campaign against a great-power power, we must push and direct war as against England.—Vladimost, St. Petersburg.

HEART HOPE
Raised in an Instant After the Use of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart—A Potent Liquid Remedy—And No Case Too Acute for Immediate Relief and Certain Cure.

"For fifteen years I was a great sufferer from heart disease. All this while I was in the hands of one of our best physicians, from whom the only encouragement I could obtain was that I was liable to die at any moment. I had many times read of cures made by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart, and was induced to try a bottle of this cure, and to my surprise the very first dose gave me immediate relief. I felt encouraged and persisted. Before the first bottle was taken the drops, which had sorely troubled me, had disappeared, and when I had completed my second bottle I felt as well as I had ever felt." Mrs. John A. James, Warton.

THE LEGISLATURE.

FREDERICTON, N. B., March 8.—Hon. Mr. Dunn recommitted a bill amending the game law, Mr. Carpenter in the chair. Mr. Hill moved an amendment providing a penalty upon boys under fifteen years of age, who, unless accom- panied by parents or guardians, carry guns. The amendment was lost, the vote being—

Yeas—Pitts, Shaw, Lockhart, Ward, Howe, Russell, Hill, O'Brien (Charlotte), Porter—9.
Nays—Tweedie, Dunn, Lablouis, Farris, Stockton, Sumner, Polier, Johnson, Paulin, Leger, Osman—11.
The bill was then agreed to with amendments.

Dr. Stockton moved the following resolution (of which he had given notice), seconded by Mr. Shaw: Resolved, That authority be given, and is hereby given to the committee on public accounts to call for persons and papers and to examine witnesses under oath touching the transactions of the executive government, or any member thereof, as such, with any bank or banks during the last fiscal year, and from the close of the last fiscal year to February 28th, 1898.

Dr. Stockton said he could not see why the government should interpose any objection to this resolution. It was customary even before he (Stock- ton) came to the legislature to give the public accounts committee the power asked in this resolution. In 1879, as will be seen by page 13 of the Journals of that year, a resolution was moved by Mr. Blair and seconded by Mr. Edderburn, that a committee consisting of seven members, to whom should be referred the public accounts and all matters connected therewith, and that such committee shall have and exercise all the powers conferred by act of as- sembly, 33 Victoria, cap. 33, intitled "an act to provide for the attendance and examination on oath of witnesses before the legislature or committees thereof."

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Will the hon. member now say that his resolution is similar to the resolutions to which he has made reference? Dr. Stockton—The resolutions to which I have referred are more com- prehensive than the one I have just moved and give the committee greater powers than we ask. The resolution moved in this house in 1889 was made by Mr. Gillespie and seconded by Mr. Willis, and that of the session 1891 was made by Mr. Lynott and seconded by Mr. Hill. It was natural to suppose that in referring the accounts of the province to the public accounts committee that the banking transac- tions of the government had some- thing to do with the account, and therefore that the present motion would be quite in order. Dr. Stockton referred to the Journals for 1879, 1880 and 1881 in support of his statement as to what had been done in the giving power to the public account committees during the years named. There should be no objection on the part of the government the passage of the present resolution, if he (Stock- ton) wished to draw inferences, he might say that if the transactions of the government were all that should be, then the government had nothing to conceal and should have no objection to the passage of the resolution. What I found in the accounts committee was appointed this year to justify the introduction of a resolution of this kind. He would say that several things had occurred in this resolution. The leader of the government had stated that the gov- ernment did not accept drafts, and that that system had been abolished.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—The statement that I made with reference to the department of public works. It had been said that the department had accepted time drafts. I was speak- ing of public works, and the question which I answered had reference to public works. I was speaking of mat- ters entirely in my own department, and when I made the statement that I did make, I knew I was speaking by the book.

Hon. Mr. White took the point that the resolution was out of order. The speaker of the opposition in his support of his resolution gave evidence of the fact that he was conscious that it was out of order. The leader of the opposition had told the people of Al- bert to closely watch the proceedings of the legislature, and they would see how the position was denied infor- mation. The hon. member therefore comes and makes a resolution which he knows is entirely out of order.

After considerable further discussion between Messrs. White and Stockton, Mr. Speaker gave a lengthy ruling. He said, and his ruling was raised, he thereon on the ground that in respect thereto on the ruling that the resolu- tion was out of order because it asked that the public accounts committee de- termine something with respect to a matter which had not been referred to them. He read Dr. Stockton's resolution, just moved, and said that the resolution on its face assumes that the papers of which the committee are to base their inquiries are already before them. He then read from the jour- nals of the present year, page 35, wherein it appeared that the public accounts and the auditor general's report for 1897 were all that had been re- ferred to the public accounts commit- tee. He also read from Bourinot, page 519, to show that committees are bound by the references that have been made to them. It was quite clear that the resolution moved by the leader of the opposition made refer- ence to papers that had not been re- ferred to the committee. All the au- thorities were against his acceptance of the resolution, and he would there- fore rule that it was out of order.

Mr. Pinder said he wished to refer to some matters, and in order that he might be perfectly in order he desired to state that he would have a motion made before he sat down. The public accounts of last year showed that there was a debt balance of \$69,871.23. As a member of the house he (Pinder) was not satisfied that that was a cor- rect statement, and he was satisfied that all the amounts paid out in 1897 had all been included in the auditor

general's report the debit balance would have been larger than the figure named. Now, what do we find? We find that \$1,500 for consolidating the statutes had been paid, and that this amount, as well as \$1,500 paid Mr. Hannay, and \$1,000 paid Mr. Inches to get him out of the agricultural office, was carried over by draft or otherwise, and that the accounts had not appeared as having been paid dur- ing the last fiscal year, as they ought to have been paid. Various reasons had been given for getting Mr. Inches out of the agricultural office. One was that Mr. Inches was too old, an- other was that he (Inches) was seen too frequently in (Inches) office, and still another that he was not able to move about and do the work. It was said that the \$1,000 paid Mr. Inches was paid because of an arrangement made with him by the late Mr. Mil- chie. That was not correct. Mr. Inches had been asked to give up his office, and the government would pay him a half year's salary. He had de- clined to get out unless he was paid a full year's salary. The arrangement was made between Mr. Inches and the commissioner of agriculture. Mr. Inches got his money by means of a draft through the bank on the re- ceiver general.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie said that it ap- peared to him that the hon. mem- ber sat the greater was the disposi- tion on the part of some members to debate at length on matters of trifling importance. He (Tweedie) could not see the member for York (Pinder) without his reckless statements. The government took the fullest re- sponsibility in reference to the mat- ter to Mr. Allen, Mr. Inches and Mr. Hannay. No member of the govern- ment had ever denied that these pay- ments had been made.

Mr. Pinder—Will you deny that Mr. Inches made a draft on the receiver general? Mr. Tweedie—That is not so; the government paid Mr. Inches \$1,000, and what member of the government ever denied the fact? The govern- ment had stated, took the fullest re- sponsibility to give the committee the matter and the other payments. The mind of the hon. member for York was so constructed that he could not see anything except what was imme- diate and dishonest about every trans- action which he made reference to. The return which had been brought down showed when the payment had been made to Mr. Allen. The hon. member for York went nosing about in the hope of finding something wrong, and mud throwing formed his policy.

Dr. Stockton said he objected to such language. Hon. Mr. Tweedie said it was ag- gravating to have insinuations made that the government was desirous of withholding information, when every- body knew that the disposition of the government was to give the commit- tee of the public accounts and the house and country the very fullest in- formation with respect to every trans- action. The house knew that the stat- utes were consolidated, and the members of the house knew that Mr. Allen had been paid for doing the work.

Mr. Pinder—I have not found fault with the paying of Mr. Allen for con- solidating the statutes. What I found fault with was that the payment had not appeared in the report of the year. Hon. Mr. Tweedie—The hon. mem- ber thought he had found a mere- nest in connection with the \$43,000 re- ceived just after the close of the fiscal year, yet he had to admit that the meeting of the public accounts com- mittee that everything was all right in respect to that matter.

Mr. Pinder—Yes, that is so, and I can always ready to admit what is right. Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Yes, and you will find that the payment of Mr. Allen was quite regular, that it was made by warrant in the usual way, and that it was not appear in last year's ac- counts because it was not paid till after the close of the year.

Mr. Lockhart said that it had been claimed that Mr. Inches had been re- ceived with previous to the 31st of October, and that this had been done by draft, notwithstanding the state- ment that no payments were made by draft. The statement of the provincial sec- retary was calculated to mislead. Fault was found in these matters not so much because the amounts should not be paid as the fact that they had been carried over after the close of the fiscal year, in order that the debit balance might not appear as large as it really was.

The motion was withdrawn. Hon. Mr. Tweedie committed a bill further amending chapter 56 of Con. Stats. of schools, Mr. Hill in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie explained that the bill intended to empower the premier of the province to act as chairman of the board of education in the absence of the lieutenant governor. Mr. Lockhart found fault with sub- section 23 of section 3, which reads as follows: (2) To every teacher of a county grammar school holding a county gram- mar school license and doing gram- mar school work, as determined by ex- aminations under the direction of the chief superintendent, a sum not ex- ceeding three hundred and fifty dol- lars per annum, subject to such con- ditions as to local and otherwise as the board of education may deem prop- er for the particular county in which the school is established. Provided, however, that not more than four teachers in any one grammar school shall receive the grammar school grant provided for in this section.

He (Lockhart) thought that as St. John was having more than four grammar school teachers, this bill was intended to discriminate against St. John. If it was necessary to economize by reducing the grants to the grammar schools, why not take one per cent off the whole grammar school grant instead of in this way striking at St. John. Such legislation to his mind was very narrow legisla- tion.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said that the hon. member's reference to what he called narrow legislation was quite in keeping with his way of discussing public questions. Such conduct was childish, using the word in a parila- mentary sense. The fact was that St.

John did not require more than four grammar school teachers, and the grammar school who was superintendent of the St. John schools, although holding a grammar school license, was not doing the duties of a grammar school teacher. This section was not aimed especially at St. John. If Dr. Bridges was able to perform the duties of a grammar school teacher in St. John, or rather if his duties as superintendent did not prevent him from doing so, there would be no oc- casion to have more than four gram- mar school teachers in St. John. Un- less the law was amended as pro- posed, the government would be con- tributing just that much money to- wards paying the salary of the super- visor in the number of grammar school teachers. There must be some limit to apply to Moncton and other parts of the province as well as to St. John.

Mr. Fowler said he would be re- turning the number of grammar school teachers to the government grant to one for each school. That would be fair to the rest of the province.

Mr. Alward and Mr. Lockhart spoke of the excellent work being done in the St. John grammar school, and Mr. Shaw spoke also of the excellent work of that school.

Mr. Davidson asked if the law pro- posed contained anything with refer- ence to the superior schools, and Hon. Mr. Tweedie read the law with respect to such schools.

Mr. Chipman spoke at some length in advocacy of providing superannua- tion for teachers who spent a consid- erable portion of their lives in in- structing the youth of the province. The teachers were performing an ex- cellent service, and some provision should be made looking towards the care of such persons in their old age.

Mr. Chipman said he was glad to hear that Mr. Pinder was in the way he had spoken. He (Veniot) had last year advocated the providing of a system of superannuation for the teachers, and now that he had the assistance of the hon. member for Charlotte in that direction he looked for good results.

Mr. Boyer thought that grammar school teachers should be able to teach French. The bill was agreed to with amend- ments. The house adjourned.

FREDERICTON, March 9.—Mr. Hill, from the standing rules commit- tee, submitted a report. There was quite a discussion over the matter of the introduction of pri- vate bills.

After speeches by Premier Emmer- son, Stockton and Hill, the following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That the seventy-eighth rule of the rules and practice of this house be suspended during the 9th and 11th days of March instant, and no longer.

Bills were then introduced as fol- lows: By Dr. Stockton, in addition to and amendment of the act incorporating the new St. Stephen church, St. John; by Mr. Dibble, amending an act incorporating and relating to the town of Woodstock; by Dr. Alward, to restrict the value of real and per- sonal property of William Parks & Sons (limited), in the city of St. John, for taxation purposes; by Mr. O'Brien (Charlotte), authorizing the school trustees of district No. 1, parish of St. George, to restrict the value of real and issue other certain debentures therefor; by Dr. Alward, amending an act incorporating the Musquash Anthracite Coal Mining company; by Mr. Pitts, authorizing the city of Fredericton to issue debentures for certain purposes.

Mr. Russell committed a bill amend- ing the law relating to the settle- ment of the poor, Mr. Leger in the chair.

After a lengthy discussion progress was reported. Hon. Mr. Dunn committed a bill to enable the rector of St. Luke's church, in the parish of Portland, to issue de- bentures and for other purposes, Mr. Davidson in the chair. Agreed to with amendments.

Hon. Mr. Dunn committed a bill in addition to certain acts relating to public slaughter houses in the city and county of St. John, Mr. Davidson in the chair.

any establishment which might be erected. The recorder and the slaugh- ter house commissioners had been heard before the committee, and an agreement had been reached and some amendments had been decided upon. All the commissioners ask is the power to license such establishment. The common council shall have the right to decide the location.

Mr. Shaw—Do you think such a measure desirable or necessary? Hon. Mr. Dunn said if this bill passed it was proposed to erect an abattoir in the city of St. John costing from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Such an establish- ment would be so located and con- structed as to in no way interfere with the public health. The slaughter house commissioners would see to that.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson—The board of health is the body charged with the custody of the public health, and that body is opposed to this bill.

Dr. Alward said the board of health was opposed to the passage of the bill as printed. That body wanted to have all to say regarding the location of any such establishment. Already there were two slaughter houses with- in the limits of the city of St. John. Under the proposed act there would be a modern establishment which would in no way interfere with the public health. The slaughter house commission, composed of two do- ctors and other citizens of St. John, and as much interested in the public, as asked for such legislation. Then, again, the city council, elected by the people, had the right to decide the question of location.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said the board of health was charged with the mat- ter of the public health. If we divide the authority between that body and some other body with respect to the people, had the right to decide the question of location.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said the board of health was charged with the mat- ter of the public health. If we divide the authority between that body and some other body with respect to the people, had the right to decide the question of location.

Mr. Shaw said the only power given the common council with respect to the bill, if slaughter houses were permitted to be erected in the city proper, as the bill provided, it would be the means of driving people out of St. John, and he (Shaw) was very glad to see the premier take the stand he had taken with respect to the bill.

Mr. Lockhart said he thoroughly agreed with his colleague (Shaw) with respect to this bill.

Dr. Alward thought there was un- necessary alarm with respect to this bill. He understood that a propo- sition was on foot to build a costly ab-attoir within the city limits in St. John. Already there were two slaugh- ter houses within the city limits. The proposed establishment would be built where there is flowing or run- ning water, would be constructed on the most modern plans and there- fore would be no danger from offensive odors, as some hon. members seemed to fear.

Hon. Mr. Dunn said there seemed to be some mistake about this bill. He had urged its adoption because he had been entrusted with it by the pro- moters of the bill, who were the slaughter house commissioners, and he had equally the matter of public health as much as heart as the board of health. If cattle were to be slaugh- tered at the port of St. John for ship- ment from the winter port, such a bill as the present seemed to be consider- ing as a necessity, without interfering with the public health, or existing slaughter houses. The abattoir, if er- ected at all, would be where there would be plenty of water and drain- age—perhaps at Sand Point. As con- sidered there would be no offensive odors, and no objection need be felt on this score, as the commissioners have an inspector of their own.

Hon. Mr. Dunn said he was willing to report progress so that an under- standing might be arrived at with the board of health.

Progress was reported with leave to sit again. Mr. Fowler introduced a bill further extending the charter of the St. Law- rence and Maritime Province Railway company.

Mr. Fowler recommitted a bill to in- corporate the Provincial Coal com- pany, Mr. Smith in the chair. Mr. Messrs. Pitts, Hill, Stockton and Emmerson were opposed to the bill on the ground that it conferred too great powers on the company, while Messrs. Fowler and Alward strongly support- ed the bill. Mr. Mott explained what had taken place before the commit- tees committee, and an understand- ing arrived at with respect to the bill.

report from the committee on agricul- ture: Committee Room, Feb. 23, 1898.

The committee on agriculture met on Feb. 23 at 10.30 a. m. On motion of Mr. Porter it was unanimously agreed that the govern- ment be requested to make an import- ation of seed wheat. On motion of Mr. Shaw it was unanimously agreed that the govern- ment be requested to let the said seed at cost price, or necessary?

On motion of Mr. Porter it was unanimously agreed that the govern- ment be requested to make an impor- tation from Sweden of purple top Swede turnip seed. On motion of Mr. Morrow it was unanimously agreed that the govern- ment be requested to make an impor- tation of grass seeds of different varie- ties, especially armless brome.

Committee Room, March 9th, 1898. The committee on agriculture met at 10.30. On motion, resolved that the follow- ing be the varieties of seed wheat that the government had been requested to import: Red Fife, White Russian, Wellman Fife, Harrison Bearded. And your committee ask leave to make a further report.

(Signed) JAS. RUSSELL, Chairman. Dr. Stockton thought the committee should make some recommendation in regard to the importation of seed oats. The report was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson, in the absence of the provincial secretary, committed a bill to consolidate and amend the public health act and acts in amend- ment thereof, Mr. Robinson in the chair. Mr. Emmerson explained that the bill was chiefly a consolidation, but it included amendments intended by the Provincial Board of Health to make the law more workable through- out the province.

Mr. Black objected to section 19, on the ground that it took away from the municipal councils the right to ap- point the chairman of the local board of health.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson suggested that the section stand over. Progress was reported, with leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson committed a bill consolidating and amending the law relating to municipalities, Mr. Chipman in the chair.

Mr. Robinson read a petition from many residents of Moncton asking for an increase of the city council representation at the county council. The bill proposes that there shall be three county councillors for the parish of Moncton, of whom two shall be elect- ed by that portion of the parish not included in the city of Moncton, and that one county councillor shall be elected by the city council of the city of Moncton each year from the mem- bers of the city council. He (Robin- son) thought that Moncton was en- titled to at least one more representa- tive at the county council board.

The law now proposed was the same as passed in 1878. Moncton had made wonderful progress in the meantime, and there was no reason why the city's representation at the county council board should remain at one. Hon. Mr. Emmerson said the bill had been prepared with the view of following the old lines so far as rep- resentation was concerned. If Mr. Mcton wanted greater representa- tion at the county council board, a bill could be promoted from Moncton, and in that way all the interested parties could be heard.

Mr. Sumner thought the present was the proper time to make a pro- posed change. It was absurd that Mr. Mcton's representation in the coun- ty council should remain at one. A representation bill asking for increased representation at the county council board did not come before the com- mittee of the whole of this house, but the law clerk had recommended that the bill now being considered should be amended to give Moncton increased representation. He (Sumner) now moved an amendment to that effect, which amendment was seconded by Mr. Robinson.

Messrs. Richard and Wells said that as a town meeting in Moncton had voted down the Moncton bill, to which Mr. Mcton was a member (Sumner) had referred, the hon. member should not support the proposed amendments. They agreed with the view taken by Mr. Mcton of the government, that if Moncton wanted greater representation at the county council a bill promoted by the people of Moncton should be sent here. There are interested persons who would be given a chance to be heard, and no injustice would be done any- one.

Dr. Alward agreed with the position taken by the leader of the govern- ment, while Messrs. Pitts and Black supported the amendment of Messrs. Sumner and Robinson.

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Section 17 was struck out and the bill was agreed to with amendment. House adjourned shortly after mid- night.

FREDERICTON, March 10.—Mr. Mott submitted a report from the law committee. Mr. Russell submitted the following

