

THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Amendments to Workman's
Compensation Act Proposed.

PROCEDURE SIMPLIFIED.

**Onus of Proof Placed on the Em-
ployer—Abduction of a Canadian
Citizen Avenged.**

Parliament Buildings, March 8.

This afternoon Hon. Mr. Hardy introduced his bill to amend the law respecting compensation to workmen for injuries. The measure, which, Mr. Hardy announced, embraced the best features of the English act and discarded those for which the public mind was not ripe, has for its object, first, the placing of the onus of proof with respect to the condition of machinery, etc., upon the employer, and, secondly, the simplifying of the legal procedure and the lessening of the cost of litigation under the act by means of arbitration. Mr. Whitney approved of the effort made both by the Attorney-General and Mr. Crawford in their bills to simplify legal procedure, and advocated an extension of the principle suggested to the general legal procedure. A short debate upon the abduction of one Meagher by an United States customs official was caused by a motion offered by Mr. Powell of Ottawa, resulting in the demonstration of the fact that this was a matter beyond the jurisdiction of the Legislature, and, moreover, that the vigorous action of the Dominion Government had brought speedy punishment upon the offending official.

Workmen's Compensation.

Hon. Mr. Hardy introduced his bill to amend the law with respect to compensation of workmen. The bill, he said, has two principal features: first, it provides that in trials or arbitrations under the act to recover compensation for injuries, the onus of proving that the machinery which is required under the law to be kept in a particular state or condition, or which is deemed to be of a particular character requiring covering, is in accordance with the requirements of the act, shall