

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Sewing Machines—G. A. Walton. Houses to Let or Sell—R. D. Ross. Pianoforte Tuning—J. Bewick. Ottawa Cricket Club—H. H. Benjamin.

Ottawa Times

Office: 214, Sparks Street. SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1893.

In the Senate yesterday the remaining clauses of the Patent of Inventions Act were passed through committee, several Bills were read a second time, and the Senate adjourned.

In the Commons there was a fair share of Government business done. The House sat in the evening, and made some progress with the estimates; but on reaching the Civil Service items, a general debate seemed to prevail that some time ought to be allowed to digest the report of the Civil Service Commission, and the committee rose, and the House adjourned at 9.50.

YESTERDAY afternoon the Hon. Ministers of Finance laid before the House a message from His Excellency, communicating (in part) the estimates for the public service for the year ending the 30th June, 1870.

These estimates are made up for the year 1893-70 with a comparative table for 1892-93. The first item, as usual, is the interest on the public debt. This item, payable in London, rises from \$3,721,144.30 last year, to \$4,064,792.35, the increase being due to the Intercolonial Railway Loan. The total charge for interest on the public debt is \$4,617,831.15.

There is also an item of \$259,241.84 for "charges of management," against \$255,945 for the same service last year. "Premium and Exchange" represent a sum of \$20,000, against double the amount in the last year. For the redemption of the public debt, (mated notes of Nova Scotia,) is set down at \$50,000; and for the several sinking funds, \$336,190.02. To this statement concerning the public debt, is appended a note, stating that the money temporarily required by the Government, will probably yield interest during 1893-70 amounting to \$236,079.

For Civil Government the amount to be voted is set down at \$54,985; authorized by statute \$146,046.66. Total \$701,051.66, against \$719,366.66 last year.

For the Administration of Justice, the sum of \$22,000 is set down to be voted by the Legislature, and the expenditure authorized by statute \$201,566.66, making a total of \$213,566.66, against \$316,016.66 for the current year.

For police the estimates set down \$43,440, against \$55,000 last year; and for legislation, the expenditure to be voted is \$294,617.32, against \$239,143.32 for the year ending 30th June next. The authorized expenditure for the same service is \$183,240, against \$192,495 for the current year.

The total for geological survey and observations is \$39,740, against \$30,700 for 1892-93; for arts, agriculture, and sciences \$6,100, against \$2,500 for 1892-93; for immigration and quarantine \$35,270, against \$35,750 for 1892-93; marine hospitals \$24,500, against \$7,000 for current year; pensions to be voted \$16,072; authorized \$15,999.73; total \$35,672.54, against \$35,138.34 for current financial year.

For public works and buildings a total of \$3,638,335, against \$2,503,000 last year, is asked for; but then there are \$2,000,000 of the sum on account of the Intercolonial Railway; so that the ordinary appropriations for public works appear to be somewhat reduced. The last item of the estimates so far brought down is for ocean and river steam and packet service, showing the sum to be voted \$134,941, and the authorized subsidy of \$218,000 to the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company, making a total of \$352,941.

While the Act relating to Patents of Inventions is under discussion, it is not surprising that the question whether Patent Laws are, or are not, just and beneficial, should come up for a share of attention. Many authorities entitled to respect hold that there should be no Patent Laws. They hold that the creations of genius should become the common property of all mankind, the moment they are promulgated; that there is no property in brains; that the long weary years of study and experiment should bring no other reward to the artist than that which he can afterwards wring from the hard competition of men who, without study, can adopt the inventions of others to the improvement of their own business.

This we regard as a most outrageous fallacy. No property ought to be held more sacred than the property which is the creation of genius. The Patent Laws and the Copyright Laws hold out a reward to the productions of the brain, without which invention would be paralyzed and literature dwarfed to contemptible dimensions. It is said if inventors have a special right to protection, why should not the patent be made perpetual, like the inheritance of real estate. The inference is utterly inconsequential. Real estate represents a substantial accumulation of labour. It is something which, once acquired, remains in *perpetuo*, unless disposed of, for an equivalent, real or presumed. The invention or discovery, or creation of genius, or whatever name may attach to the work or thing, to be patented or copyrighted, has not this merit. One man in this generation may conceive it. If his discovery or invention is forgotten, another in the next generation may revive it. But no man can create new acres of real estate. The property of mind is essentially personal property; and hence well considered legislation has always set a limit to the duration of a patent or a copyright; while it has wisely allowed a succession of titles to be acquired, property to run through all generations. It is remarkable that men should be found in the fore-

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

SECOND SESSION: FIRST PARLIAMENT. THE SENATE.

THURSDAY, April 29, 1893.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After routine, the following petitions were severally brought up and laid on the table:

By the Hon. Mr. BLAKE, of George Lake and others, of the county of Nipigon, praying that the "Export Duty on Logs," &c., may be repealed.

By the Hon. Mr. FLINT, of William Lang and others, for removing the obstructions to the navigation of the Ottawa River, &c., &c.

By the Hon. Mr. LESLIE, of LaSalle, People of Montreal, for a continuation of their charter.

By the Hon. Mr. SANBORN, of Thomas Locke, M.P., and others, of Stansfeld, for an extension of the duty upon all foreign goods imported into Canada, and for protecting those grown in this Dominion.

By the Hon. Mr. SANBORN, of Mines Clarke and others, for a duty on foreign logs, &c., &c.

By the Hon. Mr. BENSON, of James Livingston and others, masters and owners of vessels navigating Lakes Huron and Michigan, praying that the "Act of the 13th of October, 1870, in relation to the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Chazy and Chazy Rivers," be amended by being repealed, wholly or partially.

By the Hon. Mr. TESSIER, of Mathew G. Mountain and others, of the county of Quebec, praying that the sum of \$100,000, voted by the Hon. Mr. TESSIER, for the construction of a suitable Post Office at that place, be ordered to be expended for that purpose as soon as possible.

By the Hon. Mr. ALLAN, from the Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, presented the 2nd and 3rd reports. Order read and the 2nd report read by the clerk.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, April 30.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

Mr. M. P. BYAN presented a petition from J. B. Lemay, John McLennan, and others, of Montreal, praying to be relieved from certain duties on the goods of the vessels navigating the inland waters of the St. Lawrence.

Mr. HON. MR. ROSE presented a despatch from His Excellency the Governor-General, with the estimates for the ensuing year.

On motion of Mr. MCKENZIE, the report of the Joint Committee on printing, presented yesterday, was adopted.

Mr. J. A. MACDONALD introduced a Bill to amend the Act in relation to the printing of the Statutes of the Dominion of Canada, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCKENZIE called attention to the inconvenience of the rule regarding private Bills to be printed before they could be introduced.

After some discussion it was agreed that the rule should be enforced; but that by the general consent of the House, private Bills might be introduced any day under the head of motions.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE. On motion of Hon. Mr. ROSE, the House went into committee on the Bill respecting the Department of Finance.

Mr. HON. MR. ROSE was aware that the sole responsibility should rest upon the Finance Minister, and it was not intended by the Finance Minister to the whole Council of the Treasury Board.

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