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Ottawa, April 21.

Mr. Bunter said that in view of the vote given last night sustaining the Government in their Pacific Railway policy, he would like to ask the Premier if it was his intention to visit British Columbia this season. If so, he wanted to know it—(Laughter)—on behalf of the Province, which had sent him here to their agent. (Hear, hear and laughter.)

Sir John Macdonald—I think the hon. gentleman should have given notice of his question, but I may say that the matter is under my more serious consideration. (Hear, hear and laughter.)

Mr. Farrow moved for a return showing the number of actions of selections tried in the Courts of the different Provinces composing the Dominion during the past six years, stating the number in each year, viz., 1874 & 1875 & 1876 & 1877.

Mr. Gillies moved for correspondence relating to the extension of an evening mail service from Walkerton to Paisley, Port Elgin and Southampton. He stated that both last and this session the Government had promised attention to this matter, but thus far nothing had been done. He desired that Paisley, Port Elgin and Southampton, all of which were places of some importance, should be granted the advantage of the English mail service which Walkerton enjoyed. He hoped the matter would no longer be kept in suspense.

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Ottawa, April 27.

The Minister of Justice introduced a Bill to regulate the encumbering of real estate by bonds of money or otherwise. The Bill as amended was further amended in unimportant respects, and the Committee rose and reported. On the motion for concurrence.

Mr. Orton moved the recommital of the Bill to amend by providing that no higher rate of interest than eight per cent per annum might be charged, and providing also for certain penalties to those charging a higher rate.

Sir John Macdonald said they could not vote upon the amendment until it should have been printed in the Votes and Proceedings.

Mr. Orton said that if the Bill was not passed to night its passage during the session could be risked, and he would, therefore withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Weldon moved the three months' adjournment to the motion for the third reading.

The amendment was declared lost on a division.

Mr. Oliver moved the recommital of the Bill to strike out the fifth clause. Lost on a division.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ottawa, April 22.

On the third reading of the Bill respecting the militia and defence of the Dominion of Canada Mr. Ross (Middlesex) moved an amendment that the Bill be referred back to the Committee of the Whole, with instructions to eliminate the fourth clause, which provides for the establishment of camps in regimental camps. In support of the amendment he pointed out the demoralising effect these canteens would have upon the young men who composed the militia force. The amendment was carried.

Mr. Plumb followed with one of his characteristically impudent speeches, in which he sneered at the watchfulness shewn by Mr. Ross in the interests of temperance and defended the clause.

Mr. Gillies rebuked the uncharitable alibi made by Mr. Plumb, and gave a warm support to the amendment.

Mr. Mardon and Mr. Longley, both Ministerialists, spoke strongly against the clause, declaring it to be opposed to the wishes and sentiment of the great mass of the electorate and practically annulling the operations of the Scott Act, and giving an endorsement to the use of alcoholic liquors which it was undesirable the Government should give. Mr. Mardon even contended that eminent military authorities had discovered in the recent experience of the British troops that the soldiers manifested more endurance without alcoholic liquors than with it.

The Opposition loudly cheered the speech of both these hon. members. The Government saw that the sentiment of the House was against them, and the amendment, which was at first refused, was accepted without dissent. The amendment was made in the Committee, and the Bill passed the third reading, as also did Mr. Body's Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts respecting the Indian Revenue.

After recess the Minister of Justice's Bill to amend the Act respecting cruelty to animals was advanced a stage.

A message from the Governor-General was received, recommending a grant of \$7,000 for the relief of the Hull sufferers from fire. On motion of the Premier, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, the House went into Committee and voted the necessary sum.

The House then went into Committee of Supply upon the Estimates. The votes for the Intercolonial and Pacific Railway on capital account were made, after which that for Ocean and River Service was considered.

Under this head the Premier made an important announcement in regard to the item of \$50,000 for subsidizing a line of steamboats from Canada to Rio Janeiro, Brazil. He said that the Brazilian Government were about to select a building in Rio where Canadian products such as were required in Brazil could be exhibited, and that the Canadian Government were going to procure and exhibit in Montreal specimens of such American and British products as were exported to Brazil, so that Canadian manufacturers could study the goods with which they would have to compete for the important trade.

The vote under the head of Fisheries was adopted, as also were several others of minor interest.

Ottawa, April 23.

The House went into Committee of Supply.

On the item for transfer of museums from

Montreal to Ottawa, \$5,000, in reply to Mr. Macdonald.

Sir John Macdonald said that the old Clarence Hotel in Ottawa had been purchased at a very reasonable rate for the purpose of a museum, and he believed it would be found well suited for those purposes.

Mr. Mackenzie—Is it the intention to remove the whole museum from Montreal?

Sir John Macdonald said it was not, as it was desired as far as possible to have a respectable museum at both places.

On the Item, Indians, Ontario and Quebec \$24,800.

Mr. Scriven said he would like to ask the Government if they had had the condition of the Oka Indians under consideration since they came into power.

Sir John Macdonald said he agreed that it was desirable that this question should be settled. The only proposition which had been made was that a tract of land should be given to the Indians on the Upper Ottawa, and the gentlemen of the Seminary had agreed to grant a considerable sum, \$20,000 he believed, in order that they might have the lands. The Indians had however declined the offer, on the ground that the sum was insufficient.

Ottawa, April 27.

The Minister of Justice introduced a Bill to authorize the making of certain investigations under oath, which it was explained merely empowered the Department to enquire into the conduct and actions of subordinates.

Sir Leonard Tilley moved the House in to Committee of the Whole upon the resolution providing for the increase of the issue of Dominion notes from twelve to twenty millions of dollars, with a basis of fifteen per cent. in Dominion securities. The Government had in their hands £600,000 sterling of the four per cents floated in 1878, which it was proposed to utilize as security. In proof that no danger need be anticipated because of the smallness of the gold basis, it was claimed that although the circulation was nearly thirteen millions of dollars last year the Receiver-General was only called upon to redeem in gold \$1,000,000. It was proposed to only issue four millions of dollars this year, and a similar sum next year. To assist in distributing this sum the Government contemplated paying the Indians their annuities in Dominion bills, and to make all payments of less than \$5 by bank payable in Dominion bills. The cities of Charlottetown, Winnipeg, and Victoria will be provided with branches of the Receiver-General's office.

Sir Richard Cartwright offered three objections to the Government's scheme. It was a long step in the direction of the Government's assuming control of the currency, and universal experience has shown that such an assumption always succeeds by the adoption of an irredeemable currency; secondly on account of the currency's rapid return the Finance Minister, particularly in times of financial stringency, would experience great difficulty in keeping it out, and in his efforts to do so would probably increase the contingency; and thirdly, it would reduce the already small amount of gold held in the country. While he admitted his belief that the Government ought to share somewhat in the benefits arising from the circulation, yet he feared the present scheme would only result in extracting a large part of the country's capital, the result of labour, from the entire operation of trade.

Mr. Wallace (Norfolk) accepted the resolutions as a concession in the direction of adopting a National Currency, and he complimented the Government upon the courage they had manifested in taking this step.

Mr. Charlton expressed mistrust as to the result of the Government's currency resolutions, and then proceeded to criticize the defence of a flat issue offered by Mr. Wallace. In an exhaustive speech he recited the past history of similar efforts, and portrayed their lamentable results, and sought to impress upon the House the necessity of acting upon the lesson which these events inculcated.

After a few remarks favorable to the resolution by Mr. McCollum, the motion was carried.

In the House it was concurred in on a division and the necessary Bill introduced.