

ment that no changes should be asked by the Government in the B. N. American Act, without previous assent of Parliament. Sir George said the Government had no objection to accepting the amendment, which was carried. Mr. Blake moved 2nd reading of a Bill for securing the independence of the Senate. Sir George Cartier objected that this Bill ought to originate in the Senate, and the motion was lost.

March 28, SENATE—The New Brunswick Synod Bill passed, and one respecting drawbridges over rivers. To inquiries respecting British Columbia, Mr. Campbell said that the population was over 60,000, that the expense for mail service between San Francisco and Victoria, would probably be 12 or 1500 dollars, that the aggregate for charges for salaries, &c., would be about \$109,000, that he could not state the probable cost of the railway, but it was not the policy of the Government of Canada to construct it themselves; that the graving dock at Esquimaux would be the property of British Columbia, if that Province built it, and that the Legislative Council consisted of 15 persons, nine elected.

COMMONS—Sir George Cartier introduced the British Columbia resolutions. He said the measure before the House was of the nature of a Treaty and must be accepted as a whole or rejected. British Columbia had accepted it without amendments, and the necessity of doing so must be apparent. It was desirable to extend the Confederation to the Pacific as soon as possible, on economical grounds, it was advisable to admit the colony before the increase.

March 29th—SENATE—The only discussion was on Owen Sound Harbour Bill,—some of the members thinking it more properly belonged to the Local Parliament. Several Bills were received from the Commons and read the first time, and the House adjourned.

COMMONS—Mr. Donald A. Smith, the member for Selkirk, Manitoba, was introduced by Sir George Cartier and Mr. Simpson. Sir Francis Hincks moved concurrence on the item of \$200,000 for Halifax Public Buildings, which was finally passed, with the amendment, "or for the payment of such amount, not exceeding \$66,385, as may be awarded by arbitrators in case the new Provincial Building is made available." The House went into Committee of Supply. \$624,000 were voted for Canals. Mr. Langevin explaining the expenditure on the Welland would be \$300,000. The Grenville Locks and that at Ste. Anne were being enlarged and the channel of the St. Lawrence from Lake Ontario downward required improvement.

March 30th—SENATE—A long debate took place on the Trenton Harbour Dues Bill, but it was finally read a second time, as were also two other Bills, and the House adjourned.

COMMONS—After some other bills were disposed of, the House resumed the British Columbia debate. Mr. Jones of Halifax moved an amendment that the proposed Railway would press too heavily on the resources of Canada. Hon. Mr. Morris defended the resolutions, showing the resources of British Columbia. The railway was proposed to be built by alternate lots of land grants, which attract British capital, build up new states, and enrich the whole Dominion. The House was not asked to vote a dollar and there was no intention of burdening the people of this country. The amendments were negatived and the resolutions reported.

March 31st—SENATE—Hon. Mr. Ryan pre-

sented a memorial from the descendants of the late Joseph Bouchette, late Surveyor Genl. of Quebec. At a great loss to himself he brought out a series of valuable Maps, was obliged to sell a valuable Seigniorship in consequence, and his descendants asked for some compensation. Mr. Hazen and Mr. Botsford spoke in very warm terms of the services of Mr. Bouchette, as did also Mr. Miller. Several Bills were sent up from the Commons and read the first time. Mr. Bureau made a motion for returns connected with Manitoba. The Bill to assimilate the currency of the Dominion was read a second time; also the Bill to incorporate the Quebec and Ontario Railway Co.

COMMONS—After the second reading of a number of bills, Sir Geo. Cartier moved the reception of the report on the British Columbia Resolutions. Mr. Mackenzie moved their postponement till next session. Mr. Blake supported, and Sir Geo. Cartier and Mr. Tilley opposed the amendment, which was lost. Several other amendments were put and lost, and the resolutions carried.

April 1st—COMMONS—Sir Francis Hincks moved the second reading of Bill respecting Insurance Companies. Mr. Blake objected to the Bill. The objections were answered by Sir Francis Hincks and the Bill read a second time. Sir Geo. Cartier moved the 2nd reading of Address to Her Majesty for the Union of British Columbia. Mr. Mackenzie moved in amendment that the terms are unreasonable and unjust. Dr. Tupper supported the Address. Mr. Scatcherd, Mr. Rymal and Mr. Huntington the amendment, which was lost. Sir A. T. Galt moved an amendment that it be understood that the Railway shall be constructed by private companies receiving money and land. Sir Geo. Cartier opposed the amendment, but announced to the House the determination of the Govt. that the railway should be built by private companies, by means principally of land grants, and that they intended to take the sense of the House on this subject early in the ensuing week. Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Blake declined to support the amendment and it was lost; the Address was read and ordered to be engrossed.

In Committee of Supply a discussion arose respecting some Government lands leased to the Montreal Warehousing Company, and it was moved that it is the duty of the Government to resume possession of the lots for public uses. Mr. Langevin went into a history of the transaction, stating that the land had been leased at the recommendation of the Montreal Board of Trade, and the principal forwarding merchants, with the power of resuming at 3 months notice. The amendment was lost. Some complaints were brought forward of the interference of Census officers in elections, and the way they were appointed. Mr. Dunkin denied any knowledge of any cause of complaint, and Mr. Holton testified to the fairness of the Government in making Census appointments.

April 3rd, after routine, some discussion took place on the delay in printing. Several of the members thought this was due to the inadequacy of the prices given. The printers excused themselves by saying they had too much to do. Several private Bills were passed. Some discussion took place on the time of prorogation. Mr. Cartwright moved an address to Her Majesty, protesting against the withdrawal of the troops. Sir George Cartier said the address for the most part agreed with the views of the Government,