

Letellier de St. Just declined to answer, stating that the Mission was of a confidential nature.

**COMMONS.**—The House in Committee of Ways and Means, Budget Speech. Hon. Mr. Cartwright, Finance Minister, &c., moved a series of resolutions for changes in the tariff, which he estimated would give an additional revenue of \$3,000,000. Government hoped by great economy not to be under the necessity of asking for further taxation next year. Dr. Tupper, in a long speech, criticised the proposals of the Finance Minister. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie defended Mr. Cartwright's scheme, and contended that it was indispensable in the state of the country. The resolutions were carried and the committee rose.

15.—In the Senate there was no important discussion. In the Commons, after a good deal of routine business, inquiries, &c., &c., Mr. Bowell made his motion for the expulsion of Riel. Hon. Mr. Holton moved an amendment that the action of the House should be deferred until after the action of N. W. Committee. Mr. Mousseau moved a further amendment that, in the interest of tranquillity an address should be presented to Her Majesty asking a full pardon and amnesty for all offences committed during the N. W. troubles. A long debate followed, which was not closed when the House rose.

16a.—No important business in Senate. In Commons the question of expulsion of Riel resumed. Mr. Mousseau's amendment lost by a vote of 27 to 164. Hon. Mr. Holton's lost by vote of 78 to 117. Motion for expulsion carried by 68 to 124.

17b.—**COMMONS.**—2d reading of Intercolonial Railway Amendment Act. House in committee of Supply passed a large number of items without discussion.

20.—**SENATE.**—Great number of petitions for Prohibitory Liquor Law presented. Bill to amend Law of Libel introduced. **COMMONS.**—The only debate of any importance was upon salaries of Judges in the Maritime Provinces.

22.—**SENATE.**—No debate of importance. **COMMONS.**—The most important debate was upon Sanitary Statistics. It was proposed to establish Sanitary Bureaus, but Mr. Mackenzie thought this would be going outside the jurisdiction of the House, but promised if it were found this were not the case, a measure should be prepared for the next session. House went into Committee of Supply and passed a large number of items without debate. On the Militia Service items, Mr Mackenzie stated the intention of the Government to get a Major-General of British Army to take command of Militia and to establish a military school similar to that at West Point.

23.—**SENATE.**—Hon. Mr. Alexander laid before the House some statements with respect to the working of the Government railways in N. S. and N. B., showing that the expenditure was largely in excess of the revenue.

**COMMONS.**—A bill to make further provision of lands for half-breeds in Manitoba was introduced by Hon. Mr. Laird. The object was to give each half-breed head of a family, each of the Selkirk settlers, and a few pioneer families, 140 acres each. The adjourned debate on the Election Bill was resumed, and was continued till midnight. The second reading was carried.

24.—In the Senate the question of copyrights was brought up. The bill to prevent

adulteration of food was, after some discussion, read a second time. In the Commons some conversation took place upon the exceedingly bad ventilation of the House arising in part from impurity of gas. The discussion of the Election Law was resumed, and several items of the bill passed through committee without a division. On the question of nomination, an amendment was proposed in favor of open nomination, which was lost by a vote of 98 to 42. The House went into committee of supply and passed a number of items.

29.—**SENATE.**—Address for subsidy to steamship company between San Francisco and China, calling at Esquimaux, B. C. Second reading of Libel Bill. House in committee on N. B. Criminal Justice Amendment Bill.

**COMMONS.**—Adoption of second report of select committee on prohibitory liquor law, moved by Mr. Ross, and the discussion occupied the time until recess. After recess several bills passed committee, and were read a third time. Bill for trying controverted elections was read a second time. Pilgrimage Bill introduced, and the House went into committee of supply, and a large number of items passed.

30.—**SENATE.**—B. A. Assurance Company Bill passed second reading. Le Credit Foncier du Bas Canada Company Amendment Bill.

**COMMONS.**—Report of committee on export duty. House in committee of ways and means. Hon. Mr. Cartwright stated that the Government propose to place a uniform *ad valorem* rate 5 or 6 per cent higher than before on certain articles of luxury, reducing the duties on teas, ships' materials and iron. The debate on the resolutions was kept up till 2 a. m., when the House went into committee and reported the resolutions carried.

MAY 1.—**SENATE.**—The lighthouses in harbour of St. John, N. B., and some statements respecting claims on Intercolonial Railway were under discussion. Complaint was made of the delays in bringing down papers asked for. Several bills from the Commons were read a first and second time.

2d.—**COMMONS.**—Reading of tariff amendment act. After a good deal of discussion, especially with regard to the tax on ship-building materials, the resolutions passed. The Manitoba Dominion Land Act was introduced, and the House went into committee of supply, and adjourned at 2.35 a. m.

May 4th.—**SENATE.**—Libel Bill. Several amendments were proposed, which were negatived, and the first ten clauses carried. **COMMONS.**—House in Committee of the Whole on resolution to amend the law respecting Bill Stamps; after some discussion the resolution passed. Committee appointed to confer with Committee of Senate, to devise measures to facilitate despatch of business. Debate on Prohibitory Liquor Law resumed. House in Committee supply on the grant for Pacific Railway Survey. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie said further surveys were required in British Columbia, before the line could be decided on, and the railroad could not be commenced there this season. Between Esquimaux and Nanaimo, on Vancouver's Island, the road could be proceeded with at once. On Bale Verte Canal item, Mr. Holton objected there would be no advantage adequate to the great expense. Mr. Palmer said it would pass through a productive Country and reduce the naviga-