

attempt to enforce uniformity in New Brunswick with the fishing regulations of Ontario and Quebec, was an infringement of rights enjoyed for three quarters of a century. Hon. Mr. Smith defended the steps taken, asserting that the Courts in New Brunswick held that no such rights legally existed. The Government had no intention of interfering with the occupancy the people had enjoyed for so many years. After long discussion the motion was carried. After recess the subject of refunds to the Great Western Railway was brought up by Hon. Mr. Tupper. In his opinion the refunds were illegal. He was supported by Sir John Macdonald. Hon. Messrs. Burpee, Blake and Mackenzie asserted they had followed the precedent of the last ministry with respect to the Grand Trunk. Dr. Tupper and Sir John showed that the cases were not the same, and also that by the terms of the Order in Council it had been made in violation of the Statute Law. Hon. Mr. Langevin moved for correspondence respecting the Charlevoix Election, complaining of interference by Government officers in that election, which led to a discussion between the hon. member and Hon. Mr. Cauchon and other French Members. Mr. Orton moved for a Select Committee on the Agricultural Interests of the Dominion. The subject was discussed till half-past eleven, when the House adjourned.

2nd—SENATE—Hon. G. G. Stevens introduced, Petitions read, Reports presented, and the Campbell Divorce Bill read first time. On the motion by Hon. Mr. Reesor for second reading of the Bill on the 8th March, with liberty to Eliza Campbell to be heard by counsel and order to Robt. Campbell to attend to be examined, a debate arose, but, on a division, the motion was carried.

COMMONS—Second reading of "Criminal Statistics Act." Mr. Brouse approved heartily of the measure, but regretted provision was not also made for health statistics, which were more important. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie moved second reading of the New N. West Territory Act. The territory in question was one of unsettled boundary between Ontario and Manitoba, and the Act provided for its Territorial Government under the Lieut. Governor of Manitoba until the boundary question was settled. Debate on the agricultural interests was resumed by Mr. Plumb, and continued until the House adjourned.

3rd—SENATE—A very large number of petitions presented, addresses moved for papers relating to the Eastern Railway Extension of Nova Scotia and the Atlantic Cable Companies.

COMMONS—Bills to amend the "Law relating to Criminal Procedure," and the "Law relating to Abortion," introduced by Hon. J. H. Cameron. Hon. Mr. Blake introduced a Bill to make more effectual provision for enquiry into Corrupt Practices at Elections, founded upon the English Act. On a motion for papers by Mr. Blain, Hon. Mr. Mackenzie explained intended improvements in the St. Lawrence Canals and River. Mr. DeCosmos brought before the House the subject of the non-admission of fish and fish oil from British Columbia under the Washington Treaty into the United States. Sir John Macdonald moved for copies of papers relative

to the appointment, instructions and resignation of the late Agent General, Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Flynn moved for papers relating to St. Peter's Canal, stating that the question of the enlargement of that canal was one of great importance, and that money for that purpose had been voted in Nova Scotia before Confederation. Debate adjourned.

24th—SENATE—Routine business only. COMMONS—A motion for a return by Mr. MacKay, of Cape Breton, led to a discussion on the coal mining interest. In Nova Scotia \$12,000,000 were invested in the coal trade, and 500,000 tons of shipping were annually engaged in it; 25,000 hands were employed in connection with the shipping. It was a great tax on this trade that, while U. S. coal was admitted free and Ontario drew her supply from that country, a heavy tax was imposed on N. S. coal going to the U. S. The exports were falling off and the trade declining. The discussion lasted the whole evening, when the motion was carried and the House adjourned.

25th—COMMONS—Bill fixing salaries of County Court Judges in Nova Scotia, introduced by Hon. Mr. Blake. The Finance Minister made his Budget Speech. Revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1875, \$21,528,715. Expenditure, \$28,713,071. Balance, \$65,644. Decrease on the Importations \$7,755,512, and on exports \$11,464,949. A difference of nearly \$2,000,000 in receipts of first seven months of 1875-6, as compared with 1874-5. The depression due to over-importation, fall of price of lumber in U. S. market, general extravagance and speculation, long-continued depression in the U. S. and general financial trouble throughout the world. In the estimates for the current year, reductions of expenditure were made of \$4 millions. Revenue for current year estimated at \$23,240,000. Expenditure a little less. On the question of increased protection, the Finance Minister contended that the tariff of the Dominion must be substantially a revenue tariff. The present time of disturbance in trade was not a time to make radical changes, the country needed time. Distress, though serious, was temporary, and the government could not see their way to relieve it, except at the risk of inflicting great permanent injury on the whole population. Their policy was one of justice to all classes, prudence and economy till the present trial was passed. After recess, Dr. Tupper criticised the Budget and the policy of the Ministry generally. The expenditure had largely increased while the revenue was diminishing, and in a time of unparalleled financial stringency and commercial distress, the Government refused to take any steps to alleviate it. Canada needed not discussions of abstract principles of free trade or protection, but a national policy for the interests of the country apart from theories altogether. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie though, theoretically, a free trader, as he had never failed to declare himself had always also said that the principle could not be carried out in Canada under present circumstances. At 10:55 the adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. Irving.

26th—COMMONS—Bill to make further provisions for the Supreme and Exchequer Court, introduced by Hon. Mr. Blake, pro-