

wealth, it had no railway communication. The harbour of Louisbourg was from 60 to 100 miles by sea nearer Europe than any other harbour in the Dominion. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie could not hold out any promise the Dominion Government would undertake the construction of any other railway than those in hand. The matter rested to a great extent with the people and Government of Nova Scotia. On the grant for the relief of settlers in Manitoba, some of the members, while allowing the necessity of the aid, thought its distribution should have been left to the Local Government. Mr. Masson moved for papers respecting the Dawson route. There had been great mismanagement on the part of the contractor, and immigrants had been obliged to go by the U. S. route. Mr. Mackenzie explained that the cost of the road for 6 years averaged \$220,000 per annum, with very small results. Tenders were advertised for and the lowest accepted. Complaints being made, it was decided useless to attempt to keep the road open for transporting passengers and freight, and the contract was cancelled. Steps were taken to keep it open as a mail route and to accommodate the engineers.

7th—SENATE—Besides routine business, nothing was done. On a motion for papers relating to Immigration Office in London, by Hon. Mr. Dickey, some discussion arose.

COMMONS—House in Committee on N. W. Territory Act. The territory to be called Keweenaw or North Land. Several amendments were negatived and the Bill passed committee. Second reading of Bill for suits against the Crown. Dr. Tupper complained of delays in the action of the Minister of Justice on Petitions of Right from parties in Nova Scotia. Hon. Mr. Blake in this Bill proposed to substitute the Supreme Court for various local tribunals as the only tribunal for hearing these cases and defended the delay. Sir John Macdonald approved the Bill, but thought the Minister of Justice wrong in deferring the decision of cases. He recommended the doing away with official arbitrators altogether and leaving all cases to be tried by the Supreme Court. Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron concurred in the recommendation. Hon. Mr. Blake thought it would be better to try first the operation of the Bill. The Bill passed without amendment. House in Committee of Supply. Mr. Workman moved resolution regretting the Government has not proposed the policy of increased protection necessary to restore the prosperity of the country. He was seconded by Mr. Devlin, and supported by Mr. Colby and Mr. Donville. Mr. Palmer did not think the principle of free trade applicable to Canada in its present circumstances, it was a mistake to fancy that protection to manufactures injured the farmer, as no one industry could flourish without the other; could not vote for the resolution, but would vote for the revision of the tariff in any direction that would afford relief to the manufacturers. Mr. Oliver and Mr. Orton opposed the resolution. Mr. Brown, a manufacturer himself, said all that was wanted was to be enabled to enter into fair competition with the Americans. Mr. Sinclair opposed the resolution as only in the interest of manufacturers. Mr. Cook hoped it would have such a minority that a pro-

ductive tariff would forever be abandoned. Sir John Macdonald characterised the motion as one of want of confidence; did not think it went far enough, and should propose another on a future occasion; believed agriculture and manufactures should go hand in hand and the tariff be revised in the interests of both; accused the Government of inconsistency, and said they had, in not coming forward to the relief of the country, lost a great opportunity, an opportunity which might never offer again. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie replied. The resolution was negatived on a vote of 118 to 51. The House went into Committee of Supply and passed one item and rose at 20 minutes past one a m.

March 8th—SENATE—Petitions and Reports. Hon. Mr. Atkins moved for correspondence and statements connected with Departmental Printing. Two Bills read the first time, and the Campbell Divorce case proceeded with. The bill examined, and a motion for the 2nd reading of the Bill was carried by a vote of 83 to 14. Motion to refer the Bill to a Select Committee with power to examine witnesses, &c., also carried on a division.

COMMONS—Mr. Farrow moved for a Select Committee to enquire into the depression of the Salt Trade. The best salt mines in the world were in Western Ontario, and they were in a languishing condition. The competition with Liverpool and U. S. Salt, both free of duty while Canadian Salt had to pay duty both on the salt and the bags in which it was put, was too great, and a small revenue duty should be put on salt. Motion carried. Some discussion arose on a motion of Dr. Brouse for information concerning holders of land on the Thousand Islands. It was a national matter, every one being interested in these islands. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie said that the Government wished, if possible, that the islands should be preserved in their natural beauty, and had directed an officer to have supervision over them, preventing the timber from being destroyed and their being occupied by smugglers. They were nearly all the property of the Indians, and no Indian lands were sold or leased without the consent of the Indians themselves. The British Columbia Mail Service, the loss of the Pacific, and some other B Columbian matters were taken up. After recess the debates on Dr. Orton's motion for a Committee on the Agricultural Interests was resumed by Mr. Wallace, of Norfolk; representing a farming constituency, he could say the farmers wanted a change in the present state of things between Canada and U. S. Mr. Trow and Mr. Gordon thought farmers generally prosperous, and no protection could remove the evils from which they principally suffered, such as the weevil and Colorado bug. Hon. Mr. Huntington followed on the same side. Hon. Mr. Pope said the question was not Free Trade or Protection, nor did the farmers greatly care for protection for themselves, but the farmers of his County did feel the great importance of having manufactures established among them. The true principle was to protect moderately those articles which we could manufacture as cheaply as could be done elsewhere, and not subject them to unfair competition with the U. S. After several other members had spoken, some changes