

were made in the Committee at the suggestion of the Premier, and the motion was carried. On the Bill to amend the law relating to Criminal Procedure by Hon. J. H. Cameron. Mr. Brooks objected to the provision for examining witnesses by Commission as liable to great abuse which view was supported by Mr. Cameron, of Victoria, Mr. Mousseau and Mr. Kirkpatrick. Mr. Macdonald, of Elgin, and Mr. Mackay, Cape Breton, supported the Bill. Hon. Mr. Cameron adduced some arguments in its favour, and Hon. Mr. Blake thought the best course was to submit it to a Select Committee which was done.

March 14th—SENATE—Address for Returns of all monies in the hands of Dominion Agents in England. City Bank Bill read 2nd time and referred to Committee. House in Committee of the Whole on Penitentiaries and Criminal Statistics Bills. The former passed without amendment, the latter was slightly amended and passed. Bill from the Commons respecting suits by Petition of Right read first time.

COMMONS—Hon. Mr. Robitaille moved for a Select Committee on the subject of Submarine Telegraphy in the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, giving statistics showing the loss of life and property for several years in the River and Gulf, and proposing a telegraphic system around the Gulf, connecting the islands with the mainland. A number of members supported Mr. Robitaille's views and the Committee was granted. Mr. Frechette moved for a Select Committee on the Winter Navigation of the St. Lawrence, quoting from the evidence taken before the Quebec Legislature to show its practicability, and was supported by several other members. After recess, a motion of Mr. Macdonald, of Cape Breton, respecting the dismissal of a Postmaster brought on a discussion, which lasted nearly the whole evening, and the debate was finally adjourned. Bill to extend the Dominion Notes Act to P. E. Island, B. Columbia and Manitoba introduced. The N. S. County Courts Judges Bill passed, and Bill introduced for a further grant to Manitoba.

10th—SENATE—Bill to amend the Inland Revenue Act introduced by Hon. Mr. Scott, the "Criminal Statistics" Bill passed as amended and sent to the Commons for concurrence, and several Bills from Commons read first time.

COMMONS—House in Committee on Bill for preventing Corrupt Practices at Elections. First section agreed to. Several amendments made to second. Committee rose and reported progress. House in Committee on the Indian Law of Hon. Mr. Laird. On the first clause, Mr. Schultz objected to the width fixed for the roads, and an alteration was made at the suggestion of Sir John Macdonald. Resolutions, as amended, were adopted. After recess, House in Committee of Supply, Sir John A. Macdonald, in a very long speech, went over the whole ground of the necessity for changes of tariff, asserting that now, if ever, were they necessary. Any retrenchment in expenditure promised by the Ministry could only be at the expense of important public works which required to be prosecuted. The estimates for administrative purposes had increased

instead of diminished. He quoted both English and American authorities to show that the foreign countries who had not given up protection were competing successfully with England even in her own market, and that in England itself, before many years, Free Trade would have to give way to a tariff that would give her manufacturers fair play in their competition with other nations. Hopeless of the country receiving any aid from the Government he appealed to the sober second thought of the country, and offered a resolution, regretting that no measure for readjusting the tariff and alleviating the stagnation of business had been offered by the Ministry. Hon. Mr. Cartwright denied that a readjustment of the tariff would be advantageous, except to a very insignificant part of the population; deprecated a retaliatory policy towards the U. S., and defended the policy of the Government in retrenching expenditure. Mr. Masson pointed out differences between the opinions of the Premier and Finance Minister, stating that in his constituency (a rural one) persons of all shades of politics had petitioned for protection. Mr. Brouse advocated endeavours at reciprocity instead of protection. Mr. Laurier was in favor of protection, but this resolution went too far. Mr. Mousseau attacked Mr. Laurier for inconsistency, as he and his friends, while in the Quebec Legislature had advocated protection and building up national industry. The adjournment of the debate was moved. Mr. Mackenzie objected, considering the vote one of want of confidence, but it was carried.

March 15th—SENATE—Bill to incorporate Consolidated Bank of Canada amended and passed. Hon. Mr. Atkins moved for return of newspapers in each Province, in which Government advertising had been done for the last 4 years, and the amount paid for the same. Reports of Printing Committee presented and read, and ordered for consideration on the 16th. Several Bills advanced a stage, and returns from Railway Companies presented.

COMMONS—Mr. Forbes made a motion respecting Shipping Certificates. Canadian Captains were unable to clear their ships with the Canadian certificate of service. Both Hon. Mr. Smith and Hon. Mr. Mitchell explained that these certificates were being replaced by certificates of competency, and the inconvenience would soon right itself. Hon. Mr. Mitchell moved for address to Her Majesty, excluding Canadian tonnage from any legislation, adopted by Imperial Parliament, relative to British Merchant Shipping, unless foreign tonnage was also included. He showed what had been the steps taken when he was Minister of Marine, which had been followed up by his successor, and recommended that the Minister of Marine should at once proceed to England with a remonstrance from the Parliament of Canada. Mr. McLeod moved, in amendment, that the despatch from the Dominion Government to Lord Carnarvon of February 8th, 1876, is approved by the House, and the House hopes the views therein contained will be adopted by the Imperial Parliament. Mr. Palmer claimed the right to legislate for Canadian ships belonged exclusively to Canadian Parliament. Hon. Mr. Smith supported Mr. McLeod's amendment. If the Im-