

ment on the seventeenth clause was carried on a division. On second reading of the Common Carrier's Bill, the three months' hold was moved by Hon. Mr. Miller, carried on a division of 23 to 16. Several Bills were advanced a stage.

COMMONS—The question of the terminus of the Intercolonial Railroad led to a considerable debate. The New Brunswick Members contending that unless a deep water terminus was constructed at St. John, the railway would be useless to the city. Mr. Bowell moved for a statement of Government Deposits in Banks. There was a large discrepancy between the Finance Minister's statement and the official returns in the *Gazette*. None of the deposits drew any interest, and in the month of April the deposits in the Ontario Bank amounted to nearly 50 per cent. of its paid up capital. Hon. Mr. Cartwright explained that it had always been the custom of the Government to keep large sums on deposit in the banks, and it was not advisable that the Finance Minister should be called on to give reasons for withdrawing a deposit from one bank and putting it in others, lest the credit of the bank should be affected. House went into Committee on Inspection Act, and the Bill was passed with one or two amendments. The debate on the St. Peter's Canal was resumed. Mr. Mackay, Cape Breton, said the delay in the enlargement of the canal was a serious detriment to the trade of the Province, especially the coal trade. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie declined to recognise the doctrine that the Government was bound by the reports of its officers. Mr. Flynn said this was something more—Parliament had voted the money and tenders were called for the enlargement of St. Peter's Canal to 50 feet wide and 15 ft. in depth. Three years had elapsed since the survey was made and not a dollar had been expended. The motion was carried. On the second reading of Insolvency Act, Mr. Macdougall said the amendment now proposed had been rejected last session. Hon. Mr. Blake also opposed it, and it was thrown out by a vote of 40 to 56. House went into Committee of Supply. Several items relating to Ocean and River Navigation, Light Houses, &c., were passed and the House adjourned.

23rd—**SENATE**—Several Bills advanced a stage and debate on Mr. Carroll's motion respecting delay in the Pacific Railway resumed.

COMMONS—A question of privilege was brought up by Mr. Greenway of South Huron. House went into Committee on Supreme and Exchequer Court Bill. Several verbal amendments were made, and a series of new clauses were proposed by Hon. Mr. Blake. Bill as amended was concurred in. The N. W. Amnesty question was brought up by Mr. Costigan, moving the pardon of W. D. O'Donoghue, who had been excluded on the ground that he was a Fenian. After a very long debate the motion was rejected by a vote of 133 to 50. The House went into Committee of Supply and passed several of the items for the Marine and Fisheries Branch.

24th—**SENATE**—Several Bills passed. To the Petition of Right Bill a number of further amendments were made, and the Bill sent down to Commons for concur-

rence. A large number of other Bills were advanced a stage.

COMMONS—SUPPLY.—The Indian Estimates caused a good deal of discussion, but all the items finally passed, as did also miscellaneous items. On the items for the Quasongs a long debate took place, the estimate being increased by nearly \$40,000. The debate lasted till after recess, when the items passed, as did also those for Inland Revenues and Culling of Timber. On the items for Post Office, another debate took place. Many members asked for more postal accommodation, some complained of injustice in mail contracts, and Mr. Plumb pointed out that the increases of revenue and expenditure by no means kept pace with each other, the deficiency having steadily increased for several years, this last year amounting to over \$160,000. A number of minor items were passed and the Committee rose.

March 27th—**SENATE**—Five Bills passed, two read second time, and nine first time. Canada Shipping Co. Act sent up from Committee on Banking with several amendments, which were agreed to and the Bill passed.

COMMONS—Mr. Gordon brought forward a motion respecting Sunday work in the post offices, canals and railways of the Dominion, going over the laws of the different provinces of the Dominion, and showing a wide divergence in practice. He read letters from managers of different railways quoted from various authors, and moved a series of resolutions on the subject restricting all work to that of absolute unavoidable necessity. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie replied that this was already done, and if any special abuses were named, the Government would endeavour to rectify them. A number of members joined in the debate, and the motion was finally withdrawn. Mr. Aylmer moved for a return of Roofing Slates imported from U. S., calling the attention of the House to the depressed state of the slate industry in the E. Townships, and asking that Slates and Marble might be granted the same amount of protection other manufactures receive. Mr. Palmer moved a resolution respecting the Imperial Shipping Bill, contending that it was at variance with the rights of the Canadian Parliament. After some explanations from the Premier, the motion was withdrawn.

28th—**SENATE**—Five Bills passed; two read second time, and, on motion of Hon. Mr. Reesor, a Committee appointed to examine into the cause of the defective ventilation of the House.

COMMONS—The Indian laws again discussed, several amendments suggested, and at recess the House rose and reported progress. After recess, House went into Committee of Supply. Mr. De Cosmo moved a series of resolutions respecting the Pacific Railway, contending good faith was not kept with British Columbia. Mr. Charlton defended the course of the Government and objected to any increased taxation for the road. The debate was kept up till a very late hour. Sir John Macdonald rebuked the mover for refusing to withdraw his resolution at the instance of his own friends, and showed that it was so drawn up neither side could vote for it. On a division, only 7 out of 161