

sion of the Government, but they would endeavour to procure it. The N. W. Territories Government Bill was read a 2nd time.

**COMMONS.**—The Toronto Centre Election petition was again brought up. The Speaker gave as his opinion that the first day of Parliament was the day the Speech from the Throne was delivered but his decision was not sustained in the House, there being a majority of 4 against it. Mr. Bodwell brought up the question of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, asking for a Special Committee on the subject. Several members warmly supported the motion, which was carried and a committee of 18 appointed to consider its advisability.

26th.—**SENATE.**—In Committee on Department of the Interior and Secretary of State Bill. Martin Divorce Bill introduced.

**COMMONS.**—In answer to a question from Mr. Daly, Mr. Langevin announced the intention of Government to change the gauge of the Intercolonial Railway as far as Moncton, and replace the broad by a narrow gauge the remainder of the distance, as the road required renewal. Sir J. Macdonald called the attention of the House to a statement in the *Toronto Globe* that Mr. Potter, the President of the G. T. R. had stated that he (Sir John) and Sir F. Hincks had asked him to influence the elections. He read a telegram from Mr. Potter distinctly denying the statement. Mr. Schultz brought up the subject of a claim by the H. B. C. to 500 acres of land around Upper Fort Garry, asking for correspondence, which was promised. The returning officer for Muskoka appeared before the Bar of the House and gave evidence respecting that election.

27th.—**SENATE.**—A question of breach of privilege, a report of the Printing Committee having appeared in the newspapers before being submitted to the House. The Bill for the Interior and Secretary of State Departments was read a third time and passed, and a Bill respecting Criminal procedure read a 2nd time.

**COMMONS.**—The Kent Election case was taken up, and a Committee appointed. The Muskoka election case was then proceeded with. The returning officer being again brought to the Bar. Mr. Mills moved 2nd reading of Bill to abolish Dual representation. Mr. Bellerose moved in amendment that the matter be left to the Local Legislatures, which was negatived by a vote of 57 to 97. Two other amendments were also negatived and 2nd reading carried by a majority of 39.

28th.—**SENATE.**—Second reading N. W. Council Bill. Bill respecting Manitoba Lands passed through Committee of the Whole, with certain amendments.

**COMMONS.**—House in Committee on resolutions for amending and consolidating laws respecting weights and measures, and to provide for their inspection and make a tariff of fees for such inspection. The resolutions were agreed on and Bill sent to Committee. The Ocean Mail Service question was brought up by Hon. Mr. Tupper, asking for the sanction of the House to the contract entered into between the P. M. General and Sir Hugh Allan. The matter was left over till the contract was printed. The Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Harbour Masters' Bills were discussed and read a first time. In the Muskoka election case, it was resolved, on motion of Mr. Dorion, that the Returning Officer acted illegally, but that, as he acted under legal advice, he should be dis-

charged, which was accordingly done. The Port Wardens of Montreal and Quebec Bill was, after a good deal of discussion, reported, and ordered for second reading, and the Savings Bank Act read a second time.

31st.—**SENATE.**—Some discussion arose in relation to free railway passes on Government railways in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Notice of resolutions respecting Canada Pacific Railway were given by Hon. Mr. Macpherson.

**COMMONS.**—A long debate arose on Dr. Schultz's motion for correspondence relating to the Indians in Manitoba. Both Dr. Schultz and Mr. Cunningham urged strongly on the Government and House the necessity of a liberal policy towards the Indians, and the greatest care to prevent any dissatisfaction among them. Hon. Mr. Howe and Sir John Macdonald defended the course of the Government, alleging strict faith had been kept, and a firm and just policy would be pursued. A Commission was to be appointed to manage Indian affairs, of which the Lieut.-Governor would be the head. Mr. Wallace moved a resolution to present an humble address to Her Majesty for the Confederation of the Empire, which, after considerable discussion, was withdrawn.

April 1st.—**SENATE.**—Some discussion arose as to the steps taken for the protection of fish in the rivers, Hon. Mr. Kaulbach complaining that the Act was not properly enforced in Nova Scotia, and the river fisheries of the Province were worth nearly a million a year.

**COMMONS.**—Hon. Mr. Tilley made his financial statement. He congratulated the House and Country on the flourishing state of the Dominion judging from a commercial point of view, from the trade and commerce, from the increase of banking operations, the increase of tonnage of our vessels, or the financial condition of the Dominion. Deposits in banks had increased in 5 years nearly 37 millions of dollars. The exports in that time had nearly doubled, the imports more than doubled. After all the money spent on the Intercolonial Railway, in purchasing the N. W. Territory and opening up the country, in assuming the debt of B. Columbia and the Pacific Railway survey, the Debt of the Dominion is not a cent more per head of the population than when Confederation took place. The revenue of the last year was \$20,714,813, and the expenditure \$17,559,463, leaving a surplus of \$3,125,345. The estimate for the present year was \$20,826,849. It was probable there would be a surplus of three quarters of a million.

Mr. Mackenzie reviewed Mr. Tilley's speech, contending many of his statements were too flattering; but, would wait till it was printed, so that they might discuss it with the figures before them. Several speakers followed. Mr. Young (Waterloo), complaining of the great increase in the expenditure of the country, and most of the members agreeing in the advisability of making no changes in the Tariff.

2nd. **SENATE.**—On a question relating to the Vienna Exhibition, Hon. Mr. Campbell explained that the notification reached this country too late to enable the Government to make arrangements for a fitting representation. The House by a vote of 24 to 27 adjourned to the 18th April.

**COMMONS.**—Hon. Mr. Huntington brought forward a motion for a committee to inquire into all circumstances connected with the negotiations for the construction of the