

taken by the Nova Scotian members, and an amendment was proposed by Mr. Macdonald, but the House adjourned without discussing it.

29th.—SENATE.—A large number of Bills from Commons were passed, and the report of the Printing Committee printed and ordered for consideration.

COMMONS.—On the bill respecting deck-loads, Mr. Palmer moved in amendment the appointment of an inspector of ships, and a committee of inquiry, the bill to stand over for three months. After some discussion, some other amendments were suggested, but were lost on division, and the Bill reported. On the second reading of Ocean Mail Service Bill, considerable discussion arose. Dr. Tupper stated the contract had been amended, giving to either party the right to terminate it at the end of the year, and the bill so amended was passed. The House went into Committee of Supply, and passed a number of items. On the item of Dominion forces in Manitoba, Mr. Mackenzie raised some objections. Sir John Macdonald explained that in the present condition of the country some small force was absolutely necessary. Probably mounted police would eventually be found the best force. Hon. D. A. Smith thought both military and police were required.

30th.—SENATE.—Hon. Mr. Christie moved for a Committee on the Pacific Railway, to enquire into all matters relating to the contract granted to Sir Hugh Allan and his associates. Hon. Mr. Aikins defended the conduct of the Government and the Company. The Government had nothing to conceal, but, under the circumstances, the vote must be looked upon as one of want of confidence. After a good deal of discussion the motion was negatived by a vote of 37 to 15.

COMMONS.—A motion was carried for correspondence relating to mail service to the West Indies. Dr. Tupper said Government were prepared to grant a liberal subsidy and would be happy to receive overtures from any party prepared to undertake the matter. Mr. Mills introduced a series of resolutions respecting the Washington Treaty and the Fisheries. Sir John Macdonald said the question of the territorial rights was at that time, the subject of a correspondence between the Council and the Imperial Government, and the Head Land question would be referred to eminent jurists. On the Bill for protecting navigable streams and rivers, Mr. Currier moved in amendment, that a year's notice be given, which was adopted and the Bill passed.

May 1st.—SENATE.—A number of Bills passed; on 2nd reading of Bill to incorporate Goldsmith's Co., several members thought the House going too far in incorporating limited liability companies, and the reading was deferred till the next day.

COMMONS.—A Bill for the registration of vessels was introduced by Hon. Mr. Mitchell. Some explanations were made respecting ocean mail service, and letters read from Mr. Andrew Allan and the D. P. M. Genl. The House went into Committee of Supply and passed Subsidies for Provinces and Inland Revenue items.

2nd.—SENATE.—A number of Bills passed, and the Goldsmiths' Company Bill again taken up and read a 2nd time on the understanding it was to be discussed in Committee.

COMMONS.—A discussion arose on the Pi-

lotage Bill. Mr. Young (Montreal), thinking the pilots had been too much considered and the merchants too little, and asking that the Bill should go before the Banking and Commerce Committee. Mr. Holton objected that the Bill had not been printed in French, and the 2nd reading was finally withdrawn. The House went into Committee of Supply and Mr. Mackenzie brought before the House some matters relating to the Intercolonial Railway. He contended that large sums had been wasted by insufficient surveys, and monies paid to contractors in excess of their contract, and moved that such payment was a gross violation of public duty. Dr. Tupper in a very long and able speech defended the Govt. and the management of the road, saying that even the Hon. Mr. Mackenzie himself had stated that the road was a better one than had been contracted for. He explained the peculiar circumstances under which the money had been advanced and moved, seconded by Mr. Tilley, that in the final settlement with the contractors, the commission should make such deductions for diminished work, or allowance for increased work, as the change of grade and location may make reasonable. The amendment was passed, on a division of 95 to 76.

3rd.—COMMONS.—The House going into Committee of Supply, Mr. Holton moved, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, that in the opinion of this House, provision should be made for the continuance of the Insolvent Law till the end of next session, which was supported by Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Blake, and after a long discussion was carried by a vote of 74 to 52. His Excellency at 3 o'clock proceeded to the Senate Chamber, and gave the Royal Assent to a number of Bills.

5th.—COMMONS.—The report of the Pacific Railway Committee was presented, advising the adjournment till July in consequence of the absence of important witnesses, and submitting a letter of Hon. L. H. Huntington, stating that he was obliged to leave town and giving a list of witnesses. The consideration of the report was deferred until the 6th. A long debate followed on a motion of Mr. Blake for an address to Her Majesty to procure for the Dominion the concession of the free navigation of the Columbia river many members insisting this ought to have been done by the Washington Treaty. Mr. Thompson (of Cariboo, B. C.) said the Columbia could hardly be called a navigable stream. There were navigable reaches on which the Americans had steamers, but the Americans would hardly be likely to let us build steamers on their territory put on the river, or to use their railways round the rapids. The river was free to all nations to the port of entry. Nothing could be gained by the motion. The motion was rejected by a vote of 90 to 65.

6th.—SENATE.—Intercolonial Railway Bill. The change of gauge was approved by both sides of the House, though some members censured the Government for their refusal to adopt it before entailing such increased expense to the country. A number of bills were read a third time and passed.

COMMONS.—Mr. Cameron moved the adoption of the report of the Pacific Railway Committee, explaining the reasons that had moved the Committee to advise an adjournment. Hon. Mr. Huntington objected to the House intervening between him and his