

In the House, after recess, Mr. Tilley resumed his speech on the Treaty, and contended that the Canadian Government had not demanded money compensation from England, but had asked the Imperial Government to strengthen their hands in pressing the Treaty for ratification.

Mr. McKenney followed, and in his review of the speeches made in favor of the Treaty he was bitter. He censured the Government, and maintained that if there had been no secret correspondence between the Imperial and Canadian Governments, to cause the latter to change their opinions since the 23rd July and press for the ratification of the Treaty, there could be no other reason for the present course than the paltry advantages expected from the Imperial guarantee for two and a half million pounds.

Mr. Morris censured the member for London in asserting that the Treaty was made up of such an expression as accusing members of voting against their convictions.

Mr. Holton would accept the Treaty, with all its imperfections, for the sake of peace and the interests of the Empire.

Mr. Robt. Bell believed the Treaty was injurious to the people of the Maritime Provinces, who, while willing to bear their full share in the great work undertaken for the public good, felt that they had a right to fair play, and as the Treaty was a sacrifice of their personal rights he would vote against its ratification.

After a long debate the vote was taken at one o'clock in the morning, and the second reading of the Treaty was carried by a majority of one hundred and twenty-one to fifty-five.

A majority last night were for a second reading of the Treaty. From every province the names of the members who voted in favor of the Treaty were given.

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It is understood that the Senate will pass the bill without a division.

In the House to-day in answer to Mr. Robt. Bell, Sir John said that he could not at the present stage, give any pledge that the Treaty bill would not go into operation while the Alabama claims were unsettled, but it would not go into effect till a proclamation was issued. He also stated that the Government would continue the protection of the fisheries till the act went into operation.

Mr. Smith asked whether any arrangement had been made between the Government of Great Britain and the Dominion as to the disposition of compensation to be awarded under the 23rd article of the Treaty.

Sir John said no arrangement had been made, but a money grant would be at the disposal of Parliament.

Mr. Smith asked whether it is intended that the Commissioners appointed under articles 22 and 23 of the Treaty, in determining the amount of compensation to be paid, shall be confined to the terms of years mentioned in article 33.

Sir John said they would of course be limited to 12 years.

Burpee asked if the Government intended to proceed with the work on the Belvedere Canal during the present season.

Langevin said the Government have showed their intention to proceed with the work, by putting a large sum of money in estimates for that purpose, and that is their intention.

Burpee said, do I understand the Minister of Public Works to say he is not on with the work this season?

Mr. Langevin said that the estimates had put in estimates of half a million for that object, and that was his intention. The hon. gentleman on the other hand, must understand that this work requires, in addition to the work required, estimates, and working plans, and could not say exactly whether it could be begun one month or another. He cannot pledge the Government to begin it one month or another.

A discussion arose which lasted till about one o'clock, when the Hon. Mr. Langevin rose to read the report of correspondence relating to the necessity of appointing a resident judge for each judicial district in the Province of Quebec, in course of which Sir John said the difficulty in establishing a Supreme Court for the Dominion was, that the Province of Quebec had a different system of jurisprudence from others; also, that in considering whether he would or would not disallow Acts of Provincial Legislatures, if there was any doubt he invariably gave the Provincial Legislature the benefit of the doubt. The general opinion expressed was in favor of a Supreme Court, in order to decide constitutional questions, and also to avoid the necessity of appealing to the English Privy Council.

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In answer to Renaud, Langevin said the Government would place in supplementary estimates an appropriation for the construction of a Breakwater at the entrance to Richibucto Harbor.

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