

their being copied, that would readily be granted.

MR. ROCHESTER did not think it would make any material difference whether the list was submitted or not. The object of the Bill was simply to place the company in a position to complete the road, and in that way the municipalities referred to would be benefitted. There had been for a number of years a depression which was experienced, not only by individuals, but by municipalities. The Bill then would have the effect of enabling them to complete this road as soon as possible.

MR. PLUMB said the House merely wanted to know who composed the company. They were not told by the promoter of the Bill, and so were legislating entirely in the dark. The only thing they knew was that there was a charter on the books, and that a certain amount of work had been done. Why, then, did not the hon. member for Glengarry, instead of preserving this sphinx-like and mysterious silence, rise and give the House the information desired. The request was a very reasonable one, and to refuse it was to treat the House with want of respect.

MR. ROCHESTER said that, when a Bill of this description had passed through the Railway Committee and the Senate as well, he did not think there need be so much cavilling about it.

Bill ordered to be reported.

House resumed.

Bill reported.

Bill read the third time and passed.

BETTER TRANSLATION OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT.

(Mr. Fréchet.)

COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

Order for resuming adjourned debate on Mr. Fréchet's motion, that a Special Committee be appointed to consider the question of a better translation in French of "The British North America Act, 1867;" said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Fréchet, Béchar, Jetté, Taschereau, Baby, Mousseau and Casey, read.

MR. MITCHELL asked for explanations with respect to the motion.

MR. FRÉCHETTE said the matter was discussed at some length the other day, and he then gave his reasons in support of the motion.

MR. LANGEVIN said he was absent when the motion was discussed, and if no reasons were now given for the motion he must vote against it.

MR. FRÉCHETTE said that, if he was not mistaken, the whole of his remarks had been reported in the *Hansard*.

MR. BLANCHET said he thought the discussion had closed the other day, when the hon. member for South Bruce (Mr. Blake) stated that very likely in a short time a Commission would be appointed by the Government for the codification of our laws, and then it would be competent for the Government to appoint some gentlemen to see that the translation of the laws was properly made.

MR. KIRKPATRICK said he had the pleasure of hearing the speech of the mover of the resolution, and, therefore, he was not in the same position as several other hon. members. But he must say that he did not hear the hon. member for Lévis give any satisfactory reasons why they should appoint a Select Committee to revise the translation of the British North America Act. They knew that the appointment of a Select Committee involved more or less of expense. They had had several Select Committees appointed during this Parliament, and, according to the return brought down the other day, these Committees had cost the country a good round sum of money. Perhaps this would not cost so much, but, nevertheless, it would cost something; and the question was, would the result of this Committee justify any expense being incurred? Would the result of getting this Act translated by political partisans—because it would be nothing more nor less,—justify any expense at all? We had French translators, and if they could not adequately perform their duties, it was the duty of the Government to dismiss them and get others; it should not be left to some political partizan of the

House to air their knowledge of that beautiful language, and to translate this important Act of Parliament. But it must be remembered that this was only to please the fancy of hon. gentlemen opposite, because, as was said the other night by the hon. member for South Bruce, if the translation of this Act of Parliament altered the word Dominion to *Puissance*, or the old French word *Dominion* was retained, it would have no effect upon the Act, because it was an English Act of Parliament, and an English Statute. And, therefore, whatever translation hon. gentlemen opposite or their Committee determined upon, would have no effect upon the Act, and every hon. gentleman on that Committee would have the opportunity of translating the Act as it pleased him.

MR. MACKENZIE: Hear, hear.

MR. KIRKPATRICK said the hon. gentleman was, he knew, competent to do a great many things; but he (Mr. Kirkpatrick) doubted his ability to perform that work. He certainly must dissent from the motion, as he failed to see how any practical good could flow from it. He thought that a proper translation could be made when the laws of the Dominion were consolidated and codified.

MR. MITCHELL asked if the Government supported this motion; and, if so, why they did not take it in hand themselves, instead of shirking their responsibility by referring it to a Committee?

Question proposed and motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS:

Messieurs

Archibald,	Jones (Halifax),
Béchar, d,	Killam,
Benoit,	Kirk,
Bernier,	Laflamme,
Borden,	Lajoie,
Borron,	Landerkin,
Bourassa,	Laurier,
Brown,	Macdonald (Cornwall),
Buell,	Macdonald (Centre
Burpee (St John),	Toronto),
Carmichael,	Macdougall (East
Cartwright,	Elgin),
Casgrain,	McDougall (South Ren-
Charlton,	frew),
Cheval,	MacKay (Cape Breton),
Christie,	Mackenzie,
Church,	McCraney,
Cockburn,	McGregor,

MR. KIRKPATRICK.

Cook,	McNab,
Davies,	Metcalfe,
Delorme,	Méhot,
De. St. Georges,	Mills,
Devlin,	Montplaisir,
Dymond,	Norris,
Fiset,	Oliver,
Fleming,	Ouimet,
Forbes,	Paterson,
Fréchette,	Picard,
Galbraith,	Pouliot,
Geoffrion,	Richard,
Gibson,	Ross (Durham),
Gillies,	Ross (Middlesex),
Gillmor,	Ross (Prince Edward),
Goudge,	Rouleau,
Guthrie,	Rymal,
Hall,	Scatcherd,
Higinbotham,	Skinner,
Holton,	Smith (Peel),
Horton,	Snider,
Huntington,	Taschereau,
Irving,	Trow.—80.
Jetté,	

NAYS:

Messieurs

Appleby,	Lanthier,
Bertram,	Little,
Biggar,	Macdonald (Kingston),
Bianchet,	McDonald (Cape
Bolduc,	Breton),
Bourbeau,	McKay (Colchester),
Bowell,	Macmillan,
Brooks,	McCallum,
Burk,	McQuade,
Burpee (Sunbury),	Malouin,
Caron,	Masson,
Cimon,	Mitchell,
Costigan,	Monteith,
Coupal,	Orton,
Currier,	Pettes,
Cuthbert,	Pinsonneault,
Daoust,	Platt,
Desjardins,	Plumb,
Dugas,	Pope (Compton),
Farrow,	Robillard,
Ferguson,	Robitaille,
Ferris,	Rochester,
Gibbs (Ontario North),	Roy,
Gibbs (Ontario South),	Ryan,
Gill,	Schultz,
Haddow,	Scriven,
Hagar,	Sinclair,
Harwood,	Wade,
Hurteau,	Wallace (Albert),
Jones (Leeds),	Wallace (Norfolk),
Kirkpatrick,	White (East Hastings),
Langevin,	White (Renfrew).—81.

WINTER NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Order for the consideration of the proposed motion of Mr. Fréchette—

“That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that the Government should take steps to test the possibility of navigating the St. Lawrence from Quebec to the ocean during the winter season.”

read.