

## SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, the 25th day of August, 1890.

## COAL-MINES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Sir G. GREY to move the insertion of the following clause in the Coal-mines Act Amendment Act:—

In every lease by the Government of a coal-mine, a clause shall be inserted providing that in each year in which the profits realised from such mine, after paying all charges, shall exceed per cent., one part of such excess profits realised in that year shall go to the lessee, and the remaining part shall be paid to a fund to provide for aged, injured, or decrepit miners, and for the support of the widows and orphans of miners, especially of those who may have lost their lives from accidents in mines.

## ON SOME FUTURE OCCASION,—

Sir G. GREY to move, That, looking to the importance of a cheap and abundant supply of coal to the welfare of the manufactures and commerce of every country, to the evils that would result from a monopoly of a supply of coal falling into the hands of any powerful combination of owners of coal-mines, and to the benefits that might be secured to the miners and their families if the working of coal-mines was conducted under Government control, this House is of opinion that the Government ought to make speedy arrangements for working some of its own mines; to refrain from parting with any more coal-mines; to resume Government coal-mines already leased, in those cases in which the conditions of the lease have not been fulfilled; and to acquire coal-mines which are private property, as fitting opportunities offer: thus gradually assuming the complete control of a commodity, the judicious management and distribution of which concerns all industries and interests.