

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Fourth Parliament—First Session.

OTTAWA, April 30.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 o'clock.

After routine business of an unimportant character, the House went into Committee of Supply.

On Item 61, to meet the probable amount required for pensions to veterans of the war of 1812.

Mr. Ives objected to the meagre sum set apart for this purpose.

He believed it would be perfectly satisfactory to the people generally if the original amount of \$50,000 had been again voted.

He protested against the small amount of \$20 being given to each veteran.

Mr. PLUMM advocated a liberal treatment of the veterans.

He had made application to the Government for the purchase of a company of artillery, and he hoped it would be favorably considered.

Mr. JONES thought it was a small matter for the Government to place such a small sum in the estimates.

He did not believe in giving the paltry sum of \$20 to each veteran.

Mr. HADGARTY introduced a bill to amend the Act respecting the purchase of land.

It had been formed in his county in 1877, and it had been promised that a hundred acres of land would be given to each member.

This promise had been issued in general orders, but no member of the company had ever received the land.

After some further discussion,

Hon. Mr. TILLEY said numerous applications had been received by the Government to increase the estimate for pensions, but in the present financial condition of the country the amount could not be increased.

He hoped that in future years a larger amount might be voted for this purpose.

Item passed.

On item 63, salaries of military branch and district, there was considerable discussion.

Messrs. Scriber and Brown contending for a reduction of the staff.

Item passed.

On item 73, Military Schools and Drill Instruction in Colleges.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL explained that a staff of drill instructors would be maintained, who would inspect military schools, colleges and collegiate institutions in which there were pupils of an age sufficient to receive military instruction.

The item passed.

On item 76, Ordnance and improved firearms.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY explained that the sum was put in to cover the sale of some ordnance and fire-arms now in possession of the Government, the proceeds of which would be invested in improved arms.

Item passed.

On item 77, Intercolonial Railway to Deep Water at St. John \$100,000.

Item 78, Intercolonial Railway not locks \$40,000.

Item 79, Lachine Canal, \$1,150,000.

The Pacific Railway items, amounting in all to \$5,910,000.

Item 94, Welland Canal, \$2,000,000.

Item 114, St. John Harbor \$5,000.

The Committee, after passing the remaining items on Public Works, rose.

The House adjourned at 12.45.

OTTAWA, MAY 1.

The House met at three o'clock.

After routine.

Hon. Dr. TUPPER, in the absence of Sir John A. Macdonald, moved that for the rest of the session the House do meet on every Saturday at two o'clock p. m., and that public business be transacted on that day after routine, except on Saturday next, when the notice of motion of Mr. Fortin of the 9th of April shall take precedence after routine business.

On the Government order for the insurance resolutions being called on.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that after consulting with his colleagues, and seeing how the session had been protracted by the discussion of the tariff resolutions, and also looking to the importance of the subject, he would ask leave to withdraw the resolutions.

The resolutions were withdrawn.

On motion of Hon. Dr. TUPPER the bill to amend the Canadian Pacific Railway Act of 1874 was read a second time.

The House went into committee on the bill, and reported it with amendments.

On motion of Hon. Mr. POPE (Queens, P. E. I.) the bill to amend the Harbor of North Sydney, in Nova Scotia, was read a second time.

The House went into Committee on the bill and reported same, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Hon. Mr. POPE (Queens, P. E. I.) the bill to amend the Pilotage Act of 1873 was read a second time.

The House went into Committee on the bill and reported same, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Hon. Mr. POPE (Queens, P. E. I.) the bill to amend the Act respecting the harbor of Pictou, in Nova Scotia, was read a second time.

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states that a valuable collection of coins and medals commemorative of the principal events in the history of Canada had been offered by General Hart, of Montreal, for \$2,500.

Mr. HOOPER moved to introduce a bill to enable the Court of Chancery of Ontario to dissolve contracts of marriage in certain cases.

Mr. ANGLIN said although he thought it would be a relief to Parliament to have a Divorce Court established, yet, having already approved of divorce bills, he must call for the year and nares.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the bill had better be withdrawn.

The motion was lost on a division.

On motion of Hon. Mr. BABY the House went into Committee on the Whole to consider the following resolutions:

That it is expedient to make better provision for the inspection and safe keeping and storage of petroleum and the products thereof, and for that purpose to provide,

That the regulations to be made by officers of the Inland Revenue or of the Customs, and that the following fees shall be payable for such inspection and shall form part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, that is to say:

For every package of Canadian petroleum containing more than ten gallons, but not more than twenty gallons, ten cents.

For every package of Canadian petroleum, not containing more than ten gallons, five cents.

For every package of imported petroleum containing more than ten gallons, five cents for each additional ten gallons or fraction of ten gallons.

For every package of imported petroleum containing not more than ten gallons, ten cents.

For every package of imported petroleum containing more than fifty-five gallons, five cents for each additional ten gallons or fraction of ten gallons.

That the Governor-in-Council may make regulations for the safe keeping and storage of petroleum and its products, and for any contravention of such regulations or any other offence against the act to be passed in that behalf, the offender shall incur a penalty to be herein provided.

That the enactments now in force on this subject be repealed.

Hon. Mr. BABY explained the resolutions, and said they had been introduced with the approval of manufacturers of coal oil and petroleum.

The bill to be introduced was a consolidated act, and provided for a different mode of inspection, and as the work would be greater the fees would be doubled.

The committee reported the resolution, and a bill founded on it was introduced by Mr. BABY and read a first time.

Hon. Mr. BOWELL for Hon. Mr. Masson moved to amend the bill so as to consider certain resolutions concerning the militia.

The resolutions provide—

1. That the next enrollment of the militia shall be made and completed on or before the 28th of February, 1881, and so on, or before the 1st day of February in any year, except in case of war or other emergency.

2. That when the active militia or any corps thereof are called out in aid of the civil power, the municipality in which their services are required shall pay them, when so employed, and rated, and authorized to be paid for military service to officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and \$1 per diem for each horse actually and necessarily used by them, together with an allowance of \$1 to each officer, 50 cents to each non-commissioned officer and man per diem in lieu of subsistence and 40 cents per diem in lieu of forage for each horse, and in addition shall provide them with proper lodging and with stabling for their horses; and that the said pay and allowance for subsistence and forage, also the value of lodging and stabling, unless furnished by the municipality, may be recovered from the public works, roads, and other property of the municipality, and that if any portion of the cost of such land or any building thereon has been defrayed by the municipality in which the land is situate, a fair proportion of the proceeds, to be determined by the Governor-in-Council, may be returned to such municipality.

3. That any land held for militia purposes, in connection with drill sheds, rifle ranges, armories, or such like uses, and found unnecessary to be retained for the same, may be sold or disposed of in any order of the Governor-in-Council, and that if any portion of the cost of such land or any building thereon has been defrayed by the municipality in which the land is situate, a fair proportion of the proceeds, to be determined by the Governor-in-Council, may be returned to such municipality.

The resolutions were reported, and a bill founded on them was introduced and read a first time.

The following bills were read a third time and passed:

On motion of Hon. Mr. POPE (Queens, P. E. I.) the bill to amend the Act respecting the appropriation of certain Dominion lands in Manitoba—by the Senate—Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald.

To amend the Canadian Pacific Railway Act of 1874—Hon. Dr. Tupper.

To amend the Act respecting the Trinity House and Harbor Commissioners of Montreal—Hon. Mr. POPE (Queens, P. E. I.).

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The bill to amend the Indian Act was passed on the Committee and reported.

Hon. Dr. TUPPER moved the second reading of the bill to amend and consolidate the Railway Act of 1868 and amending acts.

The Committee rose and asked leave to sit again.

The House took recess at 6 o'clock.

After recess.

The House went into committee on the bill to incorporate the Saskatchewan Colonization Railroad Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines—Mr. Schullz.

The bill was reported by the Committee, and read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. KILVERT the House went into Committee on the bill to amend the Act incorporating the Detroit River Tunnel Company.

The bill was reported by the Committee, and read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD moved the second reading of the bill for the relief of Eliza Maria Campbell, from the Senate.

The bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee on Private Bills.

The House again went into Committee on the bill to consolidate the Railway Act of 1868, and the Acts amending the same.

The bill was adopted in Committee, read a third time and passed.

The House went into Committee of Supply and reported same, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The item of Weights and Measures was passed.

The remaining items of the estimates were passed, it being understood that certain of them might be discussed on concurrence.

The House adjourned at 11.15.

OTTAWA, MAY 3.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 o'clock.

After routine.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD presented the report of the Committee on Immigration and Colonization.

On motion of Mr. WHITE, (Cardwell,) fees for the Northern Railway Company were ordered to be returned.

Mr. FORTIN moved the House into Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration certain resolutions on the subject of the rights and interests of the Canadian fishery, as established by the Dominion of the United States to our fisheries, and setting forth that in the opinion of this House the amount of the award accruing to Canada, after paying expenses, should be made a special fund, and the interest thereof be applied in purchasing exhausted fishery grounds and developing a new fishery in the fisheries of the Dominion. In speaking to the motion he thanked the Government for

giving precedence to the subject, and called to the recollection of the House that he had interested himself in the fisheries of the country for the last twenty-seven years.

Mr. MACDONALD (Kings, P. E. I.) urged the special claims of Prince Edward Island as being greater than those of any other Province.

He thought the money could not be better applied than in prosecuting the sea fisheries on Prince Edward Island, which must not be neglected. He therefore moved in amendment to the following effect: That as Prince Edward Island has special claims upon the moneys received under the award, such claims should be settled as soon as possible.

Mr. MACDONELL (Inverness) spoke in opposition to the motion.

Mr. HACKETT advocated the claims of Prince Edward Island.

Mr. ANGLIN urged that the different Maritime Provinces should unite in pressing their claims.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Picton) introduced a bill to provide for the safekeeping of dangerous lunatics in the Northwest. The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

OTTAWA, MAY 5.

The House met at 3 p. m.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY presented a petition from the Consolidated Bank of Canada asking leave to present a bill for the reduction of its capital stock.

He stated that the petition which states they expected to obtain that reduction under a clause in a bill amending the Banking Act. That clause, however, having been withdrawn they had no other course to pursue, but to petition the House to allow them to present a bill without the usual formalities.

The petition was read and referred to the Committee on Standing Orders.

Mr. METZRO presented a petition from members of the Bar in the district of Three Rivers, praying for the dismissal of Hon. Antoine Lacombe, J. C. from the Bench. He moved that the petition be received.

The SPEAKER ruled the motion out of order and it was withdrawn.

The House went into committee on bill No. 101, an Act to amend the Act incorporating the Canals and Detroit River Bridge Company, as amended by the Standing Committee on Railways, Canals and Telegraph Lines—Mr. Kilvert.

The Committee reported the bill, which was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. DUBUC asked whether the Government intended to consent to the land acquired upon by the settlers on the Red River at a more reasonable condition than \$5 per acre, the price fixed by the late Government in 1877.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said there was so much competition among settlers to obtain the land at \$5 an acre that it was not the intention of the Government to reduce the price.

Mr. GILLIES asked whether it was the intention of the Government during the current year to pay over to the Government of Ontario the land that Province from the Common School Fund, including the Land Improvement Fund, under the award of the arbitration recently confirmed between the Dominion and Provincial Government.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY said the Government were prepared to meet all legal liabilities under the award.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—The question states under the award.

Hon. Mr. TILLEY—Well, the Government are prepared to meet all legal liabilities under the award.

Dr. SCHULTZ asked whether the Government had any official knowledge of the alleged facts contained in the following Washington telegram to the St. Paul Pioneer Press: "Washington, April 21.—It has been decided, after repeated conferences between the Secretaries of State, War and Interior, that the troublesome individual on the northern frontier known as Sitting Bull, is a British subject; that he, with his followers, voluntarily left the country of the United States and placed themselves under the protection of the British Government. The Secretary of War has written a letter to Gen. Sherman to this effect and the Secretary of State will notify the British Government. This may become a serious international question if Sitting Bull makes a raid on the frontier during the coming summer. Gen. Ruger, who has gone north of Dakota, four miles south of where Sitting Bull's camp lies, with the 18th Regiment of infantry, to build a post in that locality, has been notified of this decision and will govern accordingly."

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said neither the Government nor the Department had received any information whatever on the subject. The whole thing was a canard, for neither the Secretary of State, nor Secretary of War nor Interior of Washington can decide who is a British subject.

Mr. LANGLEY asked whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce a bill this session for the purpose of settling the long pending dispute between the Windsor and Amnapis and Western Canadian Railway Companies and the Government.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said the Government were not able to bring in a bill for that purpose this session.

Mr. HOOPER asked whether it is the intention of the Government to take into consideration the petition of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, by giving to each of them a grant of land from the unoccupied Dominion lands in Manitoba or elsewhere.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said that subject was brought under the consideration of the Government in explanation of the question of the transfer of the land, and it was too late to take the question up this session.

Mr. MACMILLAN moved an address for copies of accounts rendered by the Postmaster at Toronto or compiled for him at the Post Office Department between the 1st of July, 1874 and the 1st of July, 1878.

Mr. DONVILLE, in the absence of Mr. Plumb, moved an order of the House for the papers, reports and accounts connected with the purchase, repairs and unseaworthiness of the steamer Glendon. In speaking to the motion he stated that the Glendon was purchased for \$20,000 when she was only worth \$5,000, and totally unfit for the purpose to which she is put. He said the purchase was a mistake and had been acknowledged to be such by the late Minister of Marine.

The motion was then carried.

Mr. MOUSSARD's motion on the Letellier question was called.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD asked that the hon. member for Bagot (Monsieur) would allow the motion to stand.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said it was the first time in his experience that a First Minister had asked that a motion of want of confidence should stand.

The motion was allowed to stand over.

Mr. DONVILLE moved an order of the House for a return showing what drawback was allowed to manufacturers on goods manufactured in Canada in 1877 and 1878. He explained that the late Minister of Customs had stated that drawbacks had been allowed on certain goods manufactured in Canada and then exported. In consequence of that statement he had made the motion.

Mr. BURRIS said he was not aware that he had made such a statement, but he had said that the Act of 1877 allowed such drawbacks and he had understood some applications under that Act had been made.

Mr. ROBERTSON, in the absence of Mr. Bunting, moved an order of the House for a return showing what drawback was allowed to manufacturers on goods manufactured in Canada in 1877 and 1878. He explained that the late Minister of Customs had stated that drawbacks had been allowed on certain goods manufactured in Canada and then exported. In consequence of that statement he had made the motion.

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