

located between Manitoba and Lake of the Woods, and one between there and Lac des Mille Lacs. The Government have pushed on the surveys as rapidly as possible, as they considered it would be extremely unwise and injudicious, for the sake of a gain of two or three years in time, to undertake this great work without thoroughly knowing the country over which they had to pass. The whole territory is comparatively unknown. It has no population, and it therefore happens, after one line has been laid down, another and better one is discovered within a comparatively short distance. It has been thought, in the interest of the country, that hasty steps should not be taken in view of these circumstances.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER—How many portages will there be between Shebandowan and the Northwest Angle when all the contemplated works are carried out?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I cannot answer my hon. friend off hand. The probability is that the road will run further than Shebandowan; it will run to Lac des Mille Lacs. It is proposed to construct the line from Lac de Mille Lacs to Lake of the Woods, but for many years the water communication between these two points will be quite sufficient with the line connecting with the Lake of the Woods westward.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS—I have no hesitation in saying that the water route is a mistake. Any man who has been over it will come to the same conclusion as I have.

Hon. Mr. CAMRBELL—I see the hon. gentleman from New Brunswick in his place again, and I take advantage of his presence to say that I had no intention of ridiculing the general tenor of his remarks.

Hon. Mr. READ—I hope that this return, when it comes down, will give some information regarding the Georgian Bay Branch, for to my mind the Government have acted most unwisely in going on with it without the slightest information before them. We used to hear them say that no contract would be given out until they had made exhaustive surveys; yet we know that the Georgian Bay branch has been awarded without an instrumental survey having been made over it. No doubt it will be revealed hereafter that the route will have to be abandoned entirely, and another chosen. I have it from those who have been over the line that it is impossible to build a road over part of the route selected.

Hon. Mr. SKEAD—I think that the Government are very lax in their duty. Here is an hon. gentleman who says there never was a surveyor over the route of the Georgian Bay branch before the contract was given out. I am informed that a surveyor was over it, and we should have some information from them whether the survey was made with a theodolite, and whether profiles were made or not. I heard Hon. Mr. Mackenzie, in the other House, say there was a survey of it for a trial line, but there might be short deviations around mountains. I know there is a level country north of the line laid down on the map.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—The Government thought it was useless to say that there was a survey when every gentleman in this House knows it.

The motion was adopted.

THE EXTRADITION TREATY.

Hon. Mr. PENNY asked whether any steps had been taken to extend the provisions of the Extradition Treaty?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It has been the general desire that the Extradition Treaty should be of a very much wider character, and very great progress has been made year by year. The first treaty made at the end of the last century provided for extradition in case of two crimes. That continued till the Ashburton treaty, when the number of crimes was increased to seven. That was further enlarged by the treaty of 1870, which I think was the last. The attention of the Imperial authorities has been drawn to the question, and despatches have passed between the two countries respecting cases which ought to come under a treaty of that kind.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—Is there any intention of going outside of the criminal code?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No.

Hon. Mr. PENNY—There was a case in Montreal lately of a man who took some \$50,000 from a bank and fled to the United States. He could not be extradited, because the treaty did not provide for such cases.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—There was last year a discussion on a motion of an hon. gentleman in this House to add civil cases to the Extradition Treaty, which I think it would be proper to pass.

The matter dropped.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Hon. Mr. MILLER moved the usual formal resolution, for the appointment of Standing Committees, which was carried.