

Mr. POPE. They have not; but having been called on once or twice to submit rates, they informed me a few days ago they would do so shortly.

WHARF ACROSS THE RICHELIEU.

Mr. BÉCHARD asked, Have the Government ever given power to the "Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railway Company," or their successors, "the Vermont Central Railway Company," to build a wharf alongside of their bridge across the Richelieu river, near the towns of St. Johns and Iberville?

Mr. POPE. We can find no trace of any permission having been given. I think, at the instance of the hon. gentleman, we made enquiry in 1883, and could find nothing of the kind. We wrote to these people and have no reply.

JOSEPH DIONNE.

Mr. DESSAINT asked, Whether Joseph Dionne, of St. Denis, county of Kamouraska, is an employé of the Government; if so, in what capacity, in what Department, since when, and what is his salary?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Joseph Dionne, of St. Denis, is employed in the Department of Public Works, and has been employed for about three or four weeks in the accountant's office of that Department. His salary has not yet been fixed, but will probably be \$1.50 per day.

COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS, GUYSBORO'.

Mr. KIRK asked, On what date did A. F. Falconer resign the office of Collector of Customs for the sub-port of St. Mary's River, in the county of Guysboro', Nova Scotia. Has his successor been appointed? If so, who is he?

Mr. BOWELL. No resignation of Mr. Falconer has been received at the Department, and in consequence no successor has been appointed.

COLLECTOR AT ST. GERMAIN DE RIMOUSKI.

Mr. Fiset asked, Whether the regulations of the Customs Department have been modified in relation to the holding of the office of collector at a port, in such manner as to permit the holding thereof by a merchant, as in the case of J. A. Martin, collector, appointed and acting for the port of St. Germain de Rimouski for some years past?

Mr. BOWELL. This question goes a little beyond the rules of Parliament by affirming the fact of which the Customs Department has no knowledge. Even if it had, I am not sure the question is put in proper shape. I may say, however, for the information of the hon. gentleman, that no regulations of the Customs Department have been changed in that respect.

OFFICIALS IN NORTHUMBERLAND, N.B.

Mr. MITCHELL asked, Has the Government, or any of its Departments, received any recommendations for the superannuation or removal of any official or officials in the county of Northumberland, New Brunswick? If so, who made such recommendation and who are the parties whose removals or superannuation is recommended, and what are the reasons alleged for such removals or superannuation; and has any person or persons been recommended for appointment in their places, and if so, what are the name or names of the party or parties so recommended for appointment? Has any report been made to Council by the head of any Department for the removal or superannuation of any such official, and if so, state grounds therefor, with the names

of the party or parties on whose representation, oral or otherwise, such head of Department acted, with the names of the party or parties so recommended for removal or superannuation; and has any report been made to Council for the appointment of a successor or successors to said party or parties, and if so the name or names of the party or parties so recommended?

Mr. POPE. I speak for my own Department, which, probably, has more employees than any other in that county, and I will say no one has asked for any people to be removed that I know of. No one is suggested as his successor, and we have heard nothing from anyone about this.

Mr. BOWELL. There is no recommendation of that kind as far as the Customs Department is concerned. The hon. gentleman knows there is a vacancy.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Nor yet in the Indian Department.

Mr. FOSTER. The Government, so far as my Department is concerned, has not received any recommendations for the superannuation of any officials in the county of Northumberland; consequently there has been no recommendation for superannuation. With reference to removal of officials, I think some conversation has passed, and I will enquire and be able to give the hon. gentleman a fuller answer later.

BRAE HARBOR, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. YEO asked, Is it the intention of the Government to dredge the Brae harbor in Prince county, Prince Edward Island, during the present season, as prayed for by petitioners?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. At Brae harbor, there is a depth of two feet at low water, which must be increased to eight feet to permit a dredge to work, otherwise it will be impossible to open any kind of a channel. The length of cutting to be opened will be 1,500 feet, width 50 feet, quantity to be removed 15,000 cubic yards, probable cost \$5,000. There is no probability that this cut will remain open. So says the chief engineer, so there is no intention to do this work.

RICHELIEU RIVER BUOYS.

Mr. CLAYES asked, 1st. To whom was the contract in respect to the buoys of the Richelieu River, &c., awarded? 2nd. For what length of time and for how much? 3rd. Were the contractors the lowest tenderers? 4th. Who are the sureties? 5th. Has the Government received complaints from navigators regarding the buoy service on the Richelieu River?

Mr. FOSTER. I may say that, 1st. The contract in respect to buoys of the Richelieu River, and River des Prairies, has been awarded to Louis Henry Hébert, machinist, of St. Johns, P.Q.; 2nd. The contract is for a term of three years, and the contract price is \$400 per annum; 3rd. The contractors were the lowest tenderers; 4th. The sureties are John Black and Henderson Black, private bankers, both of St. Johns, P.Q.; 5th. No complaints have been received from navigators regarding the buoy service on the Richelieu River.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN PICTON.

Mr. PLATT asked, Is it the intention of the Government to place a sum in the Estimates for the ensuing year for the construction of Customs and Post Office buildings in the town of Picton, Ontario?