

Then, on the 13th October, I find the following:—

"Sir,—I have the honor, by direction of the Minister of the Interior, to acknowledge the receipt, through you, of a petition, dated the 4th ult., from 47 French half-breeds, on the subject of certain lands on the Saskatchewan, in the district of Prince Albert, on which they have squatted

"In reply, I am directed to request you to inform the petitioners that when the proper time arrives the case of each *bona fide* settler will be dealt with on its own merits; but, as regards the surveying of the land in question, that all lands in the North-West Territories will be surveyed according to the system now in force.

"I have the honor to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"LINDSAY RUSSELL,

"Deputy Minister Interior."

This reply was given after several applications. And now, on the 23rd December, 1884, just three months before the rebellion broke out, Major Crozier had a gentleman named S. Gagnon employed gathering information with regard to the trouble, and he reported to Major Crozier:

"As far as I can see, the chief grievances of the half-breeds is that they are afraid that the Government will not sanction the way they, amongst themselves, have agreed to take their homesteads—ten chains of frontage on the river by two miles back."

And yet the Minister tells us that these narrow lots were respected. To make the matter still stronger, one month after the rebellion had broken out and after valuable lives had been lost, one of the commissioners sent up writes to the Government:

"Our proposal is to give each occupying lake front half-breed 160 acres homestead free, allowing to retain the few acres fronting lake or river now held in occupation."

Not free, remember, but—

"on payment of \$1 an acre within two years, patent for whole to be retained until payment is made; cases few and acreage small, but concession will do good. Feeling here now very satisfactory."

Here is the answer to that:

"Your proposal as to small water frontages approved. You should declare that area of each shall not exceed forty acres, to prevent inconvenience in other parts of the country."

That is signed by the Minister of the Interior, and yet, in the face of all that, the Minister of the Interior tells us that, where these parties had settled on these narrow frontages, their settlements were respected and the lines run accordingly, and yet, when the rebellion occurred, they had not got further than selling them forty acres for \$1 an acre and giving them 160 acres perhaps miles away. In the face of those documents, I will leave the House to judge how much value can be attached to the statements of the Minister.

House divided on amendment of Mr. Mills.

YEAS:

Messieurs

Allen,
Amyot,
Armstrong,
Auger,
Bain (Wentworth),
Bergeron,
Bernier,
Blake,
Bourassa,
Cameron (Middlesex),
Campbell (Renfrew),
Cartwright (Sir Richard),
Casey,
Casgrain,
Charlton,
Desjardins,
Dupont,

Edgar,
Fairbank,
Fisher,
Forbes,
Geoffrion,
Gigault,
Gillmor,
Glen,
Guay,
Gunn,
Harley,
Holton,
Innes,
Kirk,
Landerkin,
Langelier,
Laurier,

Lister,
Livingston,
Mills,
Mitchell,
Mulock,
Paterson (Brant),
Platt,
Rinfret,
Somerville (Brant),
Somerville (Bruce),
Springer,
Sutherland (Oxford),
Trow,
Vail,
Watson,
Weldon,
Wilson.—51.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Allison,
Bain (Soulanges),
Baker (Missisquoi),
Barker,

Foster,
Grandbois,
Hesson,
Hickey,

McNeill,
Massue,
Montplaisir,
O'Brien,

Mr. ARMSTRONG.

Beaty,
Benoit,
Blondeau,
Bourbeau,
Cameron (Inverness),
Cameron (Victoria),
Campbell (Victoria),
Carling,
Caron (Sir Adolphe),
Chapleau,
Costigan,
Coughlin,
Daly,
Daoust,
Dawson,
Desaulniers (St. M'rice),
Dickinson,
Dundas,
Ferguson (Leeds & Gren),
Fortin,

Hilliard,
Hurteau,
Jamieson,
Jenkins,
Kaibach,
Kilvert,
Kinney,
Kranz,
Landry (Montmagny),
Langevin (Sir Hector),
Lesage,
Macdonald (King's),
Macdonald (Sir John),
Macmillan (Middlesex),
McMillan (Vaudeuil),
McCallum,
McDougall (Pictou),
McDougall (C. Breton),
McGreevy,
McLelan,

Orton,
Paint,
Patterson (Essex),
Pruya,
Reid,
Riopel,
Robertson (Hastings),
Royal,
Shanly,
Small,
Sproule,
Tasse,
Temple,
Thompson,
Vanasse,
Ward,
White (Cardwell),
White (Hastings),
Woodworth.—71.

Amendment negatived.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I might state that it is hoped that His Excellency will prorogue Parliament at five o'clock to-day. When the House adjourns, I will move that it stand adjourned to eleven o'clock this morning.

House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would say to the Minister of Finance that some of these items I do not feel disposed to discuss at present, but I must reserve the right to discuss them fully on concurrence, if one wishes to do so. That is distinctly understood.

Mr. McLELAN. Yes.

Legislation, Miscellaneous..... \$3,676.78

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. On whose recommendation are these increases of salary to officers in the Library proposed?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The Joint Committee.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Because a good many of these increases appear to be running up the rates a good deal above what they were formerly. Formerly we used to buy 300 copies of this Dominion Annual Register, and I think that is quite enough. You seem to be adding 100 here without rhyme or reason, to the amount that was formerly purchased.

Mr. CAMERON (Middlesex). I think one copy of this work would be too many. It is written by a man already in the employ of the Government, and I do not think we should pay him so much money for work of this character.

Mr. AUGER. Here is an item to pay for 150 of Mr. Faucher de St. Maurice's work on Parliamentary Procedure. I would like to ask the Minister what he knows about this book?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. This is a book on Parliamentary Procedure and Parliamentary Government. It is a very useful book of reference.

Mr. AUGER. I have a copy of the book here, and it contains only reports of the decisions of the Speaker of the Province of Quebec. It is printed in both languages, one purporting to be a translation of the other. In some places, the English differs altogether from the French, and when in English the decision of the Speaker is against the motion, in French the same decision is translated as in favor of the motion. There are several such instances. In one place,