

Government to introduce during the present session of Parliament a Bill to amend the Patent Laws so as to enable all British subjects to take patents in the Dominion without being subjected to the clause of the present law requiring one year's previous residence, also to amend the same by requiring that the patentee shall commence to carry on the manufacture of the articles patented within twelve months after the patent is granted instead of three years?

Hon. Mr. POPE: It was the intention of the Government to do so.

Mr. MASSON (Terrebonne): Whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint a Fishery Officer with magisterial powers for that of the Province of Quebec comprising the Counties of Argenteuil, Terrebonne, Montcalm, Joliette, and Berthier?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER replied that such was the intention of the Government.

Mr. MERRITT: Whether it is the intention of the government to establish a meteorological bureau so that the system of weather reports and storm signals, found to be so useful in Britain and the United States, may be extended to all suitable ports in the Dominion; and if so, how soon?

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said that the Government was not prepared to take action in the matter so fully, as the question of the hon. member suggested, but that some action would be taken in the matter, during the present Session.

Mr. YOUNG: Whether it is the intention of the Government to proceed during the present year, or have abandoned the construction of the fortifications for which they took power to borrow £1,100,000 during the first session of Parliament?

Hon. Sir GEORGE-É. CARTIER said it was not the intention to do so this year, but as an agreement existed between the Imperial and Dominion Governments, the policy could not be abandoned.

Mr. YOUNG: Whether it is the intention of the Government to make any alterations in the Election Laws during the present Session, and more particularly whether they proposed to amend the existing laws so that the election in each Province shall take place simultaneously?

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said amendments to existing laws would be made, but no action would be taken with a view to elections being held simultaneously.

Mr. MAGILL: Whether (in view of the contemplated improvements and extension of our system of canals referred to in the Speech from the Throne) it is the intention of Government to carry into effect and adopt the recommendations contained in the Report of the Canal Commissioners presented to the Secretary of State, dated February 24th, 1871?

Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN said the matter would be considered by the Government and the papers would be brought down in a few days.

Hon. Mr. GRAY: Whether any estimates, detailed or aggregate, have been made by the Dominion Government to the British Government of the expenses and damages sustained by Canada in the Fenian raids of 1866 and 1870, and whether in the estimate of the year 1866, if made, are included the expenses borne by New Brunswick on that occasion?

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said that there had been communication on the subject with the Imperial Government, that no estimate had been made and that in the communications New Brunswick had been included.

Hon. Mr. GRAY: Whether any steps have been taken by the Canadian Government—through the British Government, or otherwise,—to bring before the United States Government the illegal abduction of American citizens from the Port of Guysboro, in Nova Scotia, in the month of September last, of the American fishing schooner "C.H. Horton," seized for a violation of the Canadian fishery laws, and at the time within the custody of, and awaiting the action of the Court of Admiralty in Canada?

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: Correspondence had been going on in the United States and Dominion Governments and if the hon. member would move for the correspondence, it will be brought down.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE: Whether it is the intention of the Government this Session to propose a Supreme Court Bill?

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: It is not.

Mr. TREMBLAY: Whether it is the intention of the Government to promote by a subsidy the establishment of a line of telegraph along the North Shore below Quebec, with a view of affording protection to the interest of trade and navigation, and of rendering it possible, in the case of shipwrecks which are so frequent on that coast, to procure assistance for those, who for want of means of communication, are there exposed to perish from hunger and suffering?

Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN: The matter had been brought under the notice of the Government by an hon. Senator of the Dominion, and was now under consideration.

Mr. KEELER: Whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce during the present Session any measures providing for the inspection of salt manufactured in the Dominion.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said there would be a general Inspection Law, but that no representation had been made by the trade upon the subject.