

said mortgage, to the persons entitled thereto, on payment of such part of the purchase money as now remains unpaid, either with or without interest and on such other terms and conditions as the Minister deems expedient in the public interest.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I am certainly opposed to the proposition which the hon. gentleman now submits to the House. I do not know whether he has traced the history of this transaction, but this I know full well, that the papers of the year 1856, of the old Parliament of Canada, will show that this amount represents funds belonging to the University of Toronto; that the University of Toronto claimed the money that was so invested; that the Government itself is liable to the university for those moneys; and if the hon. gentleman undertakes to deal with this matter, he ought first to make the necessary provision that the university itself shall be secured an amount of money which is comprised in that mortgage and the interest thereon. I think in the appendices of 1856 a statement will be found which shows the origin of those moneys and for what purpose they were loaned. If I remember rightly, they were in some way connected with a canal; at all events, the moneys belonged to the University of Toronto, and the hon. gentleman ought, if he undertakes to deal with this mortgage, and he does propose to deal with it as the property of the Dominion of Canada, and as one which the Dominion has a right to remit, he ought to be prepared to secure to the university the funds which originally belonged to it.

Mr. FOSTER. The resolution as it stands on the paper, no doubt, deals with a debt due to the Crown, and as it involves a loss to the treasury, it should be introduced by a resolution, although I have already introduced a Bill on the subject. I had heard nothing until the hon. gentleman's speech to-day, with respect to any special claim which the University of Toronto has on the property. I found that this matter had been hanging up in the departments for several years. It was dealt with by the Public Accounts Committee some years ago; the Committee had all the papers before it, investigated the case, and made a report to the effect that the whole trust

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should be written off. The House adopted that report, although it never went any further. The proposal I submit to the House is not to wipe off the whole indebtedness, but to accept 50 per cent of the indebtedness which the parties interested are willing to give. However, I will look into the matter of which the hon. gentleman has spoken and when we come to the first reading of the Bill we can take the matter under consideration.

Motion agreed to, and House resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. LAURIER. I understood the other day when this matter was brought up for the first time that the hon. gentleman would bring down to the House the correspondence relating to this subject. I understand from the hon. gentleman to-day that there has been a report made by the Committee on Public Accounts. In what year was that made?

Mr. FOSTER. In 1888.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). It is perfectly clear that if that is the case, that the Committee were not properly informed with respect to the nature of the money.

Mr. FOSTER. That must be clear, because I find no mention of it whatever in the report.

Resolution reported.

THE MARKLAND MORTGAGE.

Mr. FOSTER moved the discharge of Order for second reading of Bill (No. 93) respecting the discharge of a mortgage to Her Majesty known as the Markland Mortgage.

Motion agreed to, Order discharged and Bill withdrawn.

SUPPLY—THE AUDITOR GENERAL.

Mr. FOSTER moved that the House again resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I propose inviting the attention of the House and of the Government to the petition presented and