

business in question it was carried on in the Province of Ontario to a very considerable extent.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I did not intend to give the hon. member to understand the other night that when the prison machinery was erected there were no private establishments making woodenware. What I intended to say was that several of these establishments which are now complaining of over-production had come into existence after the machinery there was set up, and therefore the Government was not responsible for the over-production that is now complained of. I think that statement is strictly correct; I have a recollection of meeting these gentlemen in my office, and that point was fully discussed.

Mr. MULOCK. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice whether he intends to endeavour to provide other labour for the prisoners, if possible, and to drop that kind of business my correspondents are complaining of. Since the discussion that took place, those whom I speak for have taken very strong ground upon the matter. I have received communications from Toronto and from persons engaged in labour generally. There is a principle involved in the question, and I think, if I may venture a bit of advice, that it would be very satisfactory, both to the Government and to free labour, if the Government would, if possible, utilize its convict labour in such a way that it will not come into competition with free labour. Now that the question has been raised, I would ask the Minister whether, during the vacation, or in the near future, he will endeavour to remove the objections that have been made in this respect.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I would not like to promise the hon. gentleman that we will dispense with the machinery and abandon that kind of work. If it is possible by any means to keep the prisoners employed without interfering with free labour we will do so to the greatest possible extent.

To pay J. Dingwell, County Attorney of Cornwall, for professional services and disbursements.....\$172.68

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. This is in connection with the Controverted Elections Act. When election petitions were being brought in, the Cornwall judge reported certain persons guilty of corrupt practices, and it became, under the statute, a duty to prosecute for the penalties. The prosecutions were carried on, like all other prosecutions, by the provincial authorities, but the Government of Ontario claimed that it was but fair that this Parliament should provide for the expenses attending those prosecutions. Acting upon that view, I incurred these expenses.

To pay C. H. Masters for drafting criminal law, and for other expenses in connection therewith, notwithstanding anything in the Civil Service Act \$250

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. When the work of preparing the Criminal Code was undertaken I found that Mr. Masters had prepared a great deal of material for a work upon the subject of criminal law, his investigation being particularly confined to criminal procedure. I was very glad to avail myself of the work which he had made on this subject. He is one of the barristers of the Supreme Court.

Mr. MULOCK. Will the Minister who has charge explain the item of \$10,000 for printing

Mr. MULOCK.

voters' lists. If these were for the general election perhaps he will explain how it became necessary to print them, as I presume they would be in stock.

Mr. FOSTER. I think this amount is for printing the voters' lists as required for the election, and any payments made will appear to the credit of the Receiver General.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Were lists obtained by candidates which were not paid for?

Mr. FOSTER. No. Any of the lists sold will appear as receipts.

Mr. MULOCK. It is clear that this item should not be pressed on the attention of the Committee. The Minister of Finance thinks that it may be for a certain purpose, but he is not able to give more information than appears on the face of the item. The voters' lists are required to be printed under the general Franchise Act, and we are not warranted in voting \$10,000 when no Minister can tell us the purpose for which it is to be voted.

Mr. FRASER. We had to pay for every copy we obtained, and I cannot therefore understand why this item of \$10,000 should appear for printing.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). Did I understand the Minister of Finance to say that copies of the voters' lists had been issued for which payment was not made?

Mr. FOSTER. I said quite the opposite—that payments had no doubt been made, and the receipts would appear under the head of the Receiver General. The expense of printing the lists is to be met by the Government, and if we sold the whole \$10,000 worth this item would appear as a debt to the Government, while among the receipts would appear the amount we received for payment.

Mr. McMILLAN. Was this the case in regard to all the counties or only in regard to some of them, because the lists have not been revised since 1887.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). I understood the Minister of Finance to say that this item represents so many copies sold.

Mr. FOSTER. What I stated was, that this amendment was for voters' lists printed for the election. They were distributed throughout the different ridings and were paid for—that is, those which were distributed; I do not know what proportion were paid for—and the receipts will appear to the credit of the Receiver General.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Were the lists for the whole 211 or 212 electoral divisions re-printed?

Mr. FOSTER. I do not know whether it covers the whole of them or not. I will obtain what information is necessary for the Committee, and I will bring it down on concurrence.

Mr. BARRON. I understood the Minister of Finance to intimate that the lists were sold. That is the law, and anyone who wants a list can obtain one for five cents for each polling division. It is generally rumoured that our opponents were able to get their lists for nothing. I know in one Riding in Ontario the boast was made by our opponents that they had not to pay for the lists. The revising officer has lists for sale apart from those for sale in Ottawa, but application was not made to him by our opponents because they said they could get the