

public roads. And in the discussion of the Bill in Committee this morning, upon arriving at the clause dealing with the time limit, the Minister of Railways undertook to bring in a Government measure dealing with the matter. I make this motion in accordance with that understanding.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would like to ask the Minister of Railways if it is his intention to introduce a Bill dealing with that subject separately.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I may say that we have had this subject very fully considered, and have taken a good deal of testimony before the Railway Committee. I stated there, that if the Bill were withdrawn I would submit to my colleagues a measure dealing with this subject, and some others of a good deal of importance, which were found to be inseparably connected with it, and as to which it is thought desirable to amend the Consolidated Railway Act. I expect to be able to submit this Bill at an early day for the consideration of the House, and I think it will cover the Bill which my hon. friend introduced, in such a way as fairly to meet his views.

Motion agreed to.

EASTERN EXTENSION—INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER moved that the Resolution adopted in Committee of the Whole respecting the Eastern Extension Railway be read the second time and concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER introduced Bill (No. 125) for giving effect to an agreement therein mentioned between the Dominion Government and the Government of Nova Scotia.

Bill read the first time.

SUPPLY.

The House again resolved itself in Committee of Supply. (In the Committee.)

CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

20. Stationery Office, for stationery.. \$10,000 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I perceive that the amount is increased from \$7,000 to \$10,000. What is the reason for the increase?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It is owing to the increased amount of stationery imported for the use of the different Departments throughout the Dominion; and I think it is expected to cover any loss that may arise in connection with the importations.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Do you expect this to be a permanent increase, or for this year only?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The amount usually voted is not required; but owing to the increased importations, the Department suggested that the vote should be increased this year to make the matter safe. It is only for this year and I doubt if it will be required for this year.

21. To meet the possible amount required for new appointments by an extension of the staff or by any other change..... \$5,000 00

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. This is the usual vote.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It is only for the ordinary staff I suppose.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The ordinary staff.

22. Amount required to provide for contingent expenses of the High Commissioner for Canada in London, and to provide £100 for the salary of the Secretary hitherto charged to unforeseen expenses \$4,500 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I do not see the hon. High Commissioner in his place, but it would be a convenient time to let us know whether we are to lose him or to have him. The hon. First Minister was good enough to say that he could keep the office as long as he liked. Perhaps he will now be in a position to tell us how long he will be likely to keep it, especially as we are asked to vote a little more money for it.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The High Commissionership is to be a permanent office, and I think that when the hon. gentleman is on this side he will have a High Commissioner in England too.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Perhaps the hon. gentleman will tell us how soon that event will happen also.

Mr. BLAKE. Originally house rent, fuel and taxes were paid directly by the Government, but subsequently an arrangement was arranged by an Order in Council giving a lump sum of \$3,500, in lieu of house rent, fuel and taxes, and since that time we have paid practically the whole amount of \$4,000 in a lump sum. Is it intended this amount shall cover those expenses?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Yes.

Mr. BLAKE. The vote is to cover the same services as formerly, and there is no arrangement with reference to any of these services being paid out of any other vote.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. This covers rent, fuel, and light and secretary?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Yes.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It has nothing to do with the item of contingencies for offices at all?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Mr. MILLS. At the time the office was created the right hon. gentleman told us how important it was that this officer should reside permanently in England, and how greatly inconvenienced the public service would be by not having a permanent officer there. But for several months the High Commissioner has been on this side of the Atlantic, so that the hon. gentleman must have modified the opinion he expressed so strongly to the House two or three years ago. Will the hon. gentleman tell us now whether he has come to the conclusion that it is not so necessary the High Commissioner should reside permanently in England?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The High Commissioner's place of residence and duties must be in England and are in England, but he is not like a barnacle fastened to a rock; he may occasionally come across in order to communicate with the Government, but his permanent residence is in England.

Mr. BLAKE. Is he a barnacle fastened to the office?

Mr. MILLS. Or to the Government?

23. Post Office and Finance Departments—Contingencies—Amount required to make payment to those officers of the Savings Bank Branch, Post Office and Finance Departments, engaged in balancing and computing interest in Depositors' Accounts to 30th June, 1884:—
Post Office Department.....\$1,350 00 }
Finance 1,000 00 } \$ 2,350 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Will the hon. Minister of Finance answer now the question I put a few evenings