

I repeat this, the law on the subject, as it exists here, is in an extremely unsatisfactory state, and there does not seem to be any reason why there should have been so much delay in taking those steps which were urged by the unanimous addresses of both Houses of this Parliament, now a long time ago, and which were the only barriers to the Canadian Extradition Act being brought into force.

Motion agreed to.

#### RESERVE LANDS OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY OF MANITOBA.

Mr. ROYAL moved for copies of any reports, letters, memoranda, petitions, telegrams and documents whatsoever which have passed between the Department of the Interior at Ottawa and the Dominion Lands Office at Winnipeg, or the President of the Colonization Society of Manitoba, respecting the grant to or the exchange of the Reserve lands of the said Society in Taché Township, and the indemnity claimed from the Dominion Government by the said Society. He said: In 1875, the Dominion Government undertook the repatriation of Canadians settled in the United States, and took steps to have our fellow-countrymen sent to the fertile regions of Manitoba and the North-West. This repatriation was at first conducted on a pretty extensive scale, and a Colonization Society was formed with the object of receiving the immigrants gratuitously, of showing them the new lands, of giving them the information that every immigrant requires on arriving in a new country, and likewise of affording them protection in case of need. This society has succeeded in colonizing two townships, which to-day are the most flourishing settlements in Manitoba. This society giving its work, its support, its help gratuitously to a Government undertaking, had naturally a right to expect that its efforts and its just demands would not be ignored by the Government; nevertheless, though I do not wish to make accusations before the papers are brought down, I must say that, to make use of a moderate expression, on account of certain difficulties, certain misunderstandings, which were not, however, misunderstandings for everybody, the society has been unjustly treated by reason of a decision of some of the officers of the Department of the Interior. In the first place, there were four or five townships reserved for settlement by Canadians coming from the States, and the society, finding that two of these townships were of inferior quality, applied to the Department of the Interior, as well as to the Department of Agriculture, to have them exchanged for two better ones. Before we were aware of the exchange, certain officials in Manitoba, well known for their ill-feeling against a certain portion of the population, took upon themselves to inform the authorities at Ottawa, that the Colonization Society did not longer want these townships; so directions were given to offer them for sale in accordance with the provisions of the Homestead Law. Consequently, these townships being refused us, and immigration still continuing, we had to concentrate our efforts on the two remaining townships. In 1878, another misunderstanding arose, on account of the interference of certain officials of the Department of the Interior, who had spread the information among another class of immigrants, that these townships were of superior quality and ought to be opened up to settlement. The society experienced great difficulty in removing those who settled in the new townships, except those who had been eye-witnesses to what had taken place. The society, who had gratuitously undertaken to work with the Government, had to disburse \$1,300 to remove the squatters, or those immigrants who had settled in two reserved townships, on account of certain information obtained officially, or officiously, from the department. We have grounds for holding the Government responsible for the sums thus spent by the society in order to repair the wrongs it has received. I wish to lay before

Mr. BLAKE.

the House these facts, which, though they may not interest the whole House, will certainly be of interest to those who love justice. From this point of view, I think, unfortunately, that Manitoba has a right to complain that justice was not rendered to her in this matter, as in many others. I hope that when the documents asked for are brought down, there will be a debate that will result in the triumph of justice.

Motion agreed to.

#### INSPECTION OF SMOKED HERRINGS.

Mr. LONGLEY, in moving for any correspondence that has passed between the Inland Revenue Department and the Chamber of Commerce of Halifax, on the subject of the inspection of smoked herrings, said: The subject to which my motion refers is more of a local than a general character, and that is one reason why I feel it my duty to move in the matter. It will be recollected that last Session, while an amendment to the Inspection Act of 1874 was being discussed, very strong objection was taken to the fee imposed for the inspection of smoked herrings. The Minister of Inland Revenue proposed that two cents per box should be the inspection fee, and it was strenuously contended, by those who represented the men who caught the fish, that the fee was too high, and, after the discussion had gone on for a considerable time, the Minister of Inland Revenue consented to waive further discussion, with the view of obtaining fuller information on the subject. After that, I placed myself in communication with the Minister, and I thought I received an intimation from him that the fee would be reduced to one cent per box, and one half cent per half box; but when I came to look at the Bill as finally passed, I found that the fee had been left at two cents per box. It is no doubt important that smoked herrings should be inspected, but I see no reason why so high a fee as two cents per box should be imposed, as it will not improve the character of the fish or furnish any additional guarantee to those who buy them. Under the Inspection Law, ten boxes represent 100 boxes, and at two cents per box the inspector gets \$2 for inspecting not one hundred boxes, but ten, and he gets \$20 for inspecting one hundred boxes. Now, the catch of this particular kind of fish, in my country, has reached as high as 25,000 boxes in a single year; but if we assume the average catch to be half of that quantity, we shall see how large a sum is derived by the inspector for precious little labor. The right hon. Premier intimated, the other day, that no petitions had come in against this law. I beg to inform him that, while this amendment was passing through the House, I received a petition, numerously signed by the men who catch the fish, asking to have the fee reduced to one cent per box, and that the inspection be not compulsory. Although I am willing, if the House so desire, that the inspection should be made compulsory, I most strenuously oppose this most unreasonable and burdensome taxation, because it is taking money out of the pockets of the fisherman, who does all the work, and putting it in the pockets of the inspector, who does nothing.

Mr. MOUSSEAU. It was last Session the intention of the Government to comply with the wishes of my hon. friend, and an amendment suggested, I think, by him, was inserted in the Bill when it was before the Committee of the Whole. Through a clerical error it was not carried by the House, but it is now the intention of the Government to bring down a measure to comply with the wishes of the hon. gentleman by reducing the fee.

Motion agreed to.

#### TIMBER LIMITS NORTH OF QUEBEC BOUNDARY.

Mr. MILLS, in moving for any correspondence between the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec in reference to the timber limits north of the boundary of