

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The Minister of Railways not being present, I must tell the hon. member that this matter is under the consideration of the Government.

FERRY BOATS BETWEEN QUEBEC AND LEVIS.

Mr. GUAY asked, Whether it is the intention of the Government to establish a regular line of ferry boats between the cities of Quebec and Levis to connect the railways on the north shore of the St. Lawrence with the railways on the south shore in the Province of Quebec, those of the other Provinces and of the United States? If so, when?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. It is the intention of the Government to do so as early as possible.

LEATHER AND RAW HIDES INSPECTOR, LEVIS, &c.

Mr. GUAY asked: Whether Mr. Eudore Lemieux, inspector of leather and raw hides for the counties of Lévis, Bellechasse, Dorchester and Lotbinière, has resigned? If so, what is the name of his successor?

Mr. BOWELL. Mr. Lemieux has not resigned.

HUBERT HÉBERT.

Mr. DESSAINT, in the absence of Mr. CHOQUETTE, asked, 1st. What is the balance due to Hubert Hébert, revising officer for the electoral district of Montmagny, for salary, travelling expenses, printing, &c., in connection with the preparation of the electoral list for the county of Montmagny? 2nd. Has the said Hubert Hébert filed his account for all he claimed as due to him as revising officer for salary, expenses, printing, &c.? And if so, what was the total amount of such account?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Mr. Hébert, the revising officer alluded to, has filed an account for \$1,051. The sum of \$1,018 was granted to him, thirty-two dollars having been withheld by the auditor according to the regulations which were passed. Mr. Hébert, like other revising officers, received \$250 on account of his salary; what is left due to him is a balance for salary, which salary has not yet been finally fixed upon. The account of Mr. Hébert seems to be an account of all his personal expenses concerning the revision.

THE BUDGET.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would like to enquire of the hon. the Minister of Finance, whether he is yet in a position to give us any definite information as to when we may expect the Estimates and the subsequent Budget statement?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I hope to be able to name Tuesday next.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. For the Estimates?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Yes.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Can the hon. gentleman fix the date for the statement? I understand that he will bring down the Estimates on Tuesday, but has he made up his mind when he will be able to make the statement?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I am not sure about the statement, but, if I am able to reach it on Tuesday, I will lay the Estimates on the Table a day or two before.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. As the House is aware, we have, as a rule, had the Estimates a day or two before the statement is made, and it is highly desirable that that rule should be followed.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Certainly, it will be.
Mr. GUAY.

DISALLOWANCE OF MANITOBA RAILWAY CHARTERS.

On the order being called for Mr. WATSON's motion for Committee of the Whole to consider certain resolutions on which to found an Address to his Excellency the Governor General, praying that he will be graciously pleased to effectuate the altered policy stated to the House of Commons on the 5th February, 1884, and in pursuance thereof to leave to their operation any Acts of the Local Legislature, not otherwise objectionable, which have been or may be passed for the construction of railway lines within the original Province of Manitoba,

Mr. WATSON. I have received a communication from the chairman of a deputation that has arrived from Winnipeg for the purpose of laying this matter more forcibly before the Government. They have had an interview this morning, and I have received a communication which I will read to the House:

"As the matter of disallowance is now under consideration by the Cabinet, I am desired by the Manitoba deputation to suggest that you should, if possible, have your motion on the paper for to-day stand for Thursday, to-morrow week.

"F. W. ROBERTSON."

If it is the wish of the House to have the matter stand until then, in accordance with the wish of the deputation, I ask it to do so. Of course, this deputation feel that every means possible and every pressure possible should be brought to bear on the House, and, if the Government will agree to allow this to stand till a week from to-morrow, I should like to have it stand.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Yes, there is no objection.

Order postponed until Thursday the 12th instant, to be then the First Order of the Day.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S WARRANTS.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT moved for:

Return showing the amounts (in detail) expended under warrants from the Governor General in each of the years from 1873 to 1886, both inclusive.

He said: In making this motion, I desire to call the attention of the House to the general question which is involved in the use of these Governor General's warrants, and I wish to do that, not merely because the amount involved is very large, but also because a constitutional and parliamentary question of the very first importance appears to me to be involved in this matter. Now, as this is a new House, and as a large number of the gentlemen present are new members, I may take the opportunity of recalling to their minds the facts under which we separated last June. We sat for an unusually long time; we sat up to the first week of June; the parliamentary year terminated on the 1st July, so that all Departments ought to have been unusually well prepared with their estimates of the expenditure required, at any rate, for the year which terminated on the 1st July, and more than usually well prepared with their estimates for the expenditure for this present year. Now, I do not suppose that there is any member, young or old, in this House, who is not aware that it is the very cardinal principle on which all parliamentary institutions hinge that Ministers of the Crown, and the Crown itself, should not, under any pretext whatever, expend public money until that money has been voted by Parliament, and until the reasons why the Crown asks for the money has been fully explained and discussed. To that rule there is but one exception. That is very well defined in the statute under which these same Governor General's warrants are issued. In cases of public emergency, in cases where unforeseen accidents occur, in cases where things arise which could not reasonably be foreseen or arranged for by the several Departments, then and in such cases, if Parliament be not in Session, as the