

Mr. PERRY. I am glad the hon. member for King's (Mr. McIntyre) has brought this motion before the House because we have had great cause for complaint in the County of Prince, which I have the honor to represent. It appears to me that when the fishermen who claim bounties declare they are entitled to them, and when they are called upon to go before magistrates and make a solemn declaration that they have fished the prescribed time and taken the necessary catch, no Government officer should be able to declare in effect that those men had taken a false oath. I hope the hon. gentleman who has taken the important position at the head of the department will see to it that during the coming summer these wrongs will not be perpetrated on the fishermen. I agree with the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) that the whole system is liable to be abused; but I consider it to press very hardly on fishermen that after a fisherman has gone before a magistrate and sworn that he has fished so long and has caught so many pounds of different kinds of fish, that then a fishery officer, who probably does not live within 5 or 6 miles of the fisherman, should take the responsibility of declaring that the fisherman has made a false declaration. I look upon that as a gross injustice, and I hope it will be remedied. I have three cases of this kind at Tignish, and this is the third session I have endeavored to get these cases rectified. In order to obtain an investigation by the department so much red-tape procedure has to be gone through that when the small amount is obtained after three or four years, it is scarcely worth receiving. There should be some other means by which these cases can be decided. The department has now two Commissioners in Prince Edward Island, a head Commissioner and an assistant Commissioner. And they should be authorised to judge as to whether fishermen applying for the bounties are entitled to them or not. I hope we shall not hear any longer of such wrongs being perpetrated on the fishermen.

Mr. ROBERTSON. I desire to draw the attention of the Minister to the cases of D. McNeill, M. Munn, F. MacLoed, all of Little Sands, Prince Edward Island. In each of these cases evidence was adduced before the fishery commissioner that they had caught the required quantity of fish, but they failed to receive their bounties during 1886. I have written to the fishery commissioners time and again, but have never received any answer from them.

Mr. TUPPER. How long ago was it?

Mr. ROBERTSON. In 1886. The fishermen have to give evidence under oath that they are entitled to the bounty, and although this was done the fishery commissioner paid not the slightest attention to the claim. I am informed that the fishery warden felt so sore about the matter that he resigned his position, because the fishery commissioner had not even answered his letter, in which it was shown that the men had fished the necessary time, and had caught the required quantity of fish.

Motion agreed to.

RETURNS ORDERED.

Copies of all petitions presented to the Government by the residents of the Townships of the front of Young and the front of Escott, in the County of Leeds, Ontario, praying that an Act passed by the Local Legislature of the Province of Ontario, assented to the 23rd March, 1885, intitled: "An Act to provide for the union of the Townships of the front of Young and front of Escott," might be disallowed.—(Mr. Taylor.)

Statement showing the amount of expenditure on account of the Central Experimental Farm, from the first day of July, 1888, to the first day of January, 1889. Also the total cost of the Central Experimental Farm, to the first day of January, 1889.—(Mr. McMillan, Huron.)

Return showing the amount received by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company from the sale of the \$15,000,000 of Mortgage Bonds which the Company were by the Act 51 Victoria, chapter 32, authorised to issue, and the payment made, and to whom made, and for what, by the said company out of such proceeds.—(Mr. Ste. Marie.)

THE JESUITS ESTATES BILL.

Mr. BARRON. I was out of the House a few moments ago when my motion was called in regard to copies of a report and other papers respecting the Jesuits Estates Bill. It is absolutely necessary that this return should be brought down so that we may be able, intelligently, to discuss the motion of the hon. member for Muskoka (Mr. O'Brien), when it is moved. I, therefore, ask that the return be brought down as soon as possible.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Has the motion been passed?

Mr. BARRON. I ask leave to move it now, if there is no objection.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I think you had better leave it on the paper.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. MITCHELL. Is this another effort to cut off the rights of private members?

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, 5th March, 1889.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

ADJOURNMENT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved that when this House adjourns to-day it stand adjourned until three o'clock, p.m., on Thursday next.

Motion agreed to.

SUPPLY—THE BUDGET.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, in rising to make my first financial statement before this House, it would not be otherwise than natural that I should experience feelings of trepidation, and even of timidity. When I look at the line of men, distinguished Canadians, who, since Confederation, have had entrusted to them the keeping of the purse-strings of this country, men in every case of acknowledged ability and of an experience far greater than my own, when I have regard, as well, to the responsible nature of the duties which have been devolved upon me, and the fact that every action of the present leaves its impress upon the future, I would be the reverse of serious or thoughtful if I did not throw myself to-day upon the kindness of the House, and ask those who are older and more experienced than myself for their generous indulgence, and ask also for the equally generous sympathy of those who are, in point of years, more nearly my contemporaries and co-laborers in the work of this House. The wise and the vigorous policy of the preceding years, a kindly providence which, during the past year, has not forgotten this, one of her most favored countries, and a growing spirit of confidence in commercial operations, have contributed to a fullness of the Treasury, and to a peace and prosperity, general throughout the country, which serve to make easier the otherwise formidable task which has fallen to my lot. Canada to-day, standing in this her majority year, and looking back upon the record of her past, has every reason, I think, to survey that record with pride, and turning towards the future, although it may have its difficulties which are to be surmounted, I