

once a strong Conservative, but for one reason and another, he turned in favour of Mr. Mercier, and rendered him very important service by giving his seat in the Legislature to a supporter of his (Mr. Mercier's) Government. But I thought that after three or four years of judicial life, he had given up all partizan feelings. The hon. gentleman is paying him a very bad compliment.

Mr. LAURIER. We can easily see through the reasoning of the hon. gentleman. He seemed to convey the idea that Mr. Champagne had been on the Liberal side. I understand that both Mr. Barry and Mr. Champagne have been very good judges, and have given satisfaction to the bench, the bar and the public; but I am much afraid the hon. gentleman will not put in practice the theory which he advocated last night, and that the gentlemen who ought to be appointed, will not be appointed.

Mr. LANGEIER. The hon. gentleman cannot dispute the fact that Mr. Champagne and Mr. Barry have given perfect satisfaction as judges of the Magistrates Court in Montreal. I never saw a complaint against them in the newspapers, and I never heard a word of complaint from any member of the Montreal bar. On the contrary, I have frequently seen the judgments of Mr. Champagne reported in the Law Reports of Quebec, a thing which has never been done for an incumbent of a Magistrates Court before. I think if the Government do not appoint these gentlemen as Circuit Court judges they should at least appoint men who have had some training.

Penitentiaries—Kingston Penitentiaries—For construction of a Female Prison and a Criminal Asylum—Materials \$10,000

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. On what side of the penitentiary is it proposed to build this? This is a matter of some consequence, as there is some danger of these asylums for criminal lunatics becoming a nuisance if they are erected close to private dwellings. It would be well that the Government should understand what they are about. They have got a considerable area there on which they might erect this building without, I imagine, bringing themselves into collision with anybody. But, on the other hand, if the Government were going to build on the lower lake front, this would undoubtedly, I am advised, expose them to actions for damages of a rather serious kind, because any one acquainted with the nature of these lunatic asylums knows that the inmates are somewhat disorderly, and make themselves considerable nuisances to people living in the vicinity. I want to know where this building is to be placed.

Mr. OUIMET. I will give the information to-morrow.

Mr. OUIMET.

Mr. MULOCK. I communicated with the Solicitor-General in regard to certain charges that were communicated to me with respect to management and discipline in the Kingston Penitentiary. I do not propose to read those charges publicly, because they attack individuals, and I think in justice to the parties they should not be published, except at the time of their investigation. At the same time the charges are of that gravity that warrants me in asking the Solicitor-General as to what action is proposed to be taken in respect to them.

Mr. CURRAN. The hon. gentleman spoke to me some time ago, after he had made a statement in the House, and I listened attentively to what he said; but I failed to elicit from him anything more than this—

Mr. MULOCK. Permit me to say that the first interview I had was with the Minister of Public Works, who stated that he would send me a shorthand writer and I could dictate the charges to him. The shorthand writer waited on me, and I did as I had promised. The charges are therefore in the hands of the shorthand writer.

Mr. OUIMET. My secretary to-day read to me the notes dictated by the hon. gentleman. They have not yet been extended; but they will be, and I have no doubt when the Minister of Justice returns from Paris he will inquire into the whole matter. The charges conveyed to me by the hon. gentleman will be inquired into in the proper way.

Salary for Binder twine Foreman, \$1,500

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). The committee should receive some information as to what is being done in regard to the proposed manufacturing of binder twine—as to what the intentions of the Government are, and as to how soon they expect to manufacture binding twine.

Mr. OUIMET. The machinery will be purchased in a short time and put in place. In the main Estimates we took a vote with which to buy machinery, and we have been in negotiation with a firm in Galt. There is an item here of \$25,000 with which to buy manila fibre. From inquiries made from brokers in that line of trade it is ascertained that we shall have to pay 7 cents per pound. Perhaps when the department communicates with the head offices in England, cheaper quotations may be obtained.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). When is it the intention to engage the foreman?

Mr. OUIMET. As soon as the plant is bought.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). In whose hands will be the duty of purchasing the fibre?

Mr. OUIMET. Some expert appointed by the department.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). Will it be the foreman?

Mr. OUIMET. Some expert.