

they or any of them are made subject to the sanction of the House.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER: I beg to say, in reply, that contracts have been entered into for the construction of the 127 miles of Railway in British Columbia. They have been executed both by the Government and the contractors. I do not remember for the moment the day on which they were executed, but that will appear upon the copies of the contracts themselves, that will be laid on the Table, I presume before the House rises to-day. They are not made subject to the sanction of the House, but are executed under the authority given last Session.

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA IN LONDON.

QUESTION.

MR. BLAKE enquired, Whether there is any correspondence with the Imperial Government on the subject of the appointment of a permanent representative of Canada in London; and whether any such correspondence will be laid on the Table at an early day.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: There is correspondence on this subject. That correspondence is not yet completed, but I believe it will be completed at an early date. As soon as it is completed, it will be laid before the House.

PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING CONTRACTS.

QUESTION.

MR. BLAKE enquired, Whether, in view of the recent developments as to the practices by which the contract for the printing of Parliament was procured, the Government intend to propose to Parliament any steps to remedy the injurious consequences to the public of such practices in the present instance, and to prevent their repetition in the future.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: It is the intention of the Government to ask for the reappointment of the House of Commons members of the Printing Committee of last year; and a motion will be made in this House instructing them to press upon the Joint Committee the necessity of enquiring into the recent developments—to use the language of the question—and report upon the best means

of avoiding a repetition of such developments in the future.

BOUNDARY BETWEEN CANADA AND ONTARIO.

QUESTION.

MR. BLAKE enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government during the present Session to propose a measure ratifying the award on the subject of the boundary between Canada and Ontario.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: It is not the intention of the Government to propose any such measure.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—GEORGIAN BAY BRANCH.

MOTION FOR ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

MR. COCKBURN (Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, the change of policy on the part of the Government since last Session with reference to the Georgian Bay Branch of the Pacific Railway must be my justification for proposing the motion which I am about to make. This change of policy I believe has entailed serious consequences not only upon the country at large, but upon my constituency in particular, a county which embraces a territory nearly one hundred and twenty miles in length by nearly sixty miles in breadth. It will be in the recollection of most hon. gentlemen that a contract was let to Messrs. Charlebois and Company, on the 2nd August, 1878, for the construction of fifty miles of railway on the south-west side of Lake Nipissing, forming a link between the western terminus of the Canada Central Railway and a point on French River. The road was to be completed on the 1st July, 1880. The contract price for all the work, including track-laying, was \$809,813, or at the rate of \$16,180 per mile, a very moderate price indeed. With the accession to power of the present Government, it was feared by many that this project would be discontinued, particularly as the chief organ of the Government foreshadowed some such policy; but, as the present Government took a vote of \$800,000 last Session and allowed the contractors to put up store-houses along the line, and to fill them with supplies and appliances at an enormous cost, and to employ a large force in clearing out the entire line, to purchase railway ties,

MR. BLAKE.