

# House of Commons Debates

THIRD SESSION, FIFTH PARLIAMENT.—48 VIC.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS,

MONDAY, 11th May, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

CHARLES STEELE.

Mr. TROW (for Mr. MULOCK) asked, Why was Charles Steele removed from the office of postmaster at Maitland, in the County of Yarmouth, in the Province of Nova Scotia?

Mr. CARLING. He was removed from office because of complaint being received that the office was badly managed, which complaint, on enquiry being made by the Post Office Inspector, appeared to be well founded.

## THE DISTURBANCE IN THE NORTH-WEST—DUCK LAKE FIGHT.

Mr. TROW (for Mr. MULOCK) asked, Has the Government received any official report from Col. Irvine or Major Crozier, of the Duck Lake fight? If not, has the Government called for such report? If so, when and from whom?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. A report has been received from Major Crozier. It is short and imperfect, and further particulars have been demanded. When they have been obtained, all the papers will be submitted.

## MANITOBA HALF-BREED MINORS.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) (for Mr. BLAKE) asked, Whether on the application of Manitoba half-breed minors and others who were temporarily absent in North-West Territory or elsewhere during the enumeration and allotment, a Government official was directed several years ago to take their claims and evidence? And whether such claims and evidence were taken, the names entered on a supplementary list and the result reported to the Government? And when was such report made?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Messrs. Ryan and Machar, who were appointed, in 1875, to make this enumeration, reported in March, 1876, that their work was incomplete; and Mr. Ryan was authorised, by Order in Council of the 14th June, 1876, to take evidence in regard to claims of this sort if offered, either at Swan River, where he was to have his headquarters as stipendiary magistrate, or any other point in the Territories where his duties as magistrate might take him. His authority was by the Order limited to a period of two years. On 9th April, 1875, the agent of Dominion lands at Winnipeg was authorised to take evidence in support of the same class of claims. Messrs. George Newcombe and Augustus Mills, agents of Dominion lands at Emerson and Portage la Prairie, respectively, were similarly authorised on 7th May, 1877.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) (for Mr. BLAKE) asked, Whether the claims of unenumerated Manitoba half-breed minors and others have been before the Government for several

years past, and whether applications have been made to Government for their settlement?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There are no unenumerated Manitoba half-breed minors' claims before the Government, with the exception of one or two at Prince Albert, in respect of which the North-West half-breed commission has power to take evidence.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) (for Mr. BLAKE) asked, Whether a report was made to the Minister by the Deputy Minister, recommending a settlement of the claims of unenumerated Manitoba half-breed minors and others in the summer of 1884? And whether action was taken thereon by the Minister in that year?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. A report was made in the summer of 1884 by the Deputy of the Minister of the Interior, recommending a settlement of the claims of the Manitoba half-breeds, enumerated upon what is known as the supplementary list, but not as to unenumerated half-breed minors or others. As a matter of fact, there was no information in the Department to justify the assumption that any considerable number of the Manitoba half-breeds had not already been enumerated.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) (for Mr. BLAKE) asked, Whether on or about April, A. D. 1885, action was taken by Order in Council or Departmental Order, recognising the claims of unenumerated Manitoba half-breed minors and others, and settling them on the basis of orders or scrip for 240 acres or otherwise? And how many claims were recognised?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. An Order in Council of 20th April, 1885, providing that the enumerated Manitoba half-breeds, on what is known as the supplementary list, be granted \$160 in scrip to heads of families, and \$240 in scrip to children of half-breeds, was passed. The Order provides that any claims of the same class not already enumerated shall be proved before the Commissioners of Dominion Lands on or before 1st May, 1886.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) (for Mr. BLAKE) asked, Whether the settlement of the claims of unenumerated Manitoba half-breed minors and others is now proceeding?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The issue of scrip to the enumerated half-breeds of Manitoba whose claims have been proved since the reserve of 1,400,000 acres of land set apart by the Manitoba Act was exhausted, is now proceeding.

## SUPERANNUATION OF J. W. PEACHY.

Mr. RINFRET (for Mr. LANGELIER) asked, Whether J. W. Peachy, Secretary of the Department of Customs, has been superannuated? If so, has it been done at his own request or against his wishes? On what grounds has he been superannuated? If by reason of health, whether the Government intend to add seven years to his period of service, in order to increase his retiring allowance, as they did for E. C. Barber? If the Government do not intend to adopt that course with J. W. Peachy, what is the reason? Who succeeds J. W. Peachy in his position?