

## HOUSE OF COMMONS,

TUESDAY, 27th February, 1883.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

## RETURN.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER presented a return from the Department of the Interior, of the correspondence in relation to the allotment of lands for the Canadian Pacific Railway, and also of the reservation of lands for that purpose, together with a map showing the lands allotted and the lands reserved.

## MONEY REQUIRED FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY moved the second reading of Bill (No. 21) to authorize the raising by way of loan of certain sums of money required for the public service.

Mr. BLAKE. On the motion of an hon. friend, an order was granted for the production of correspondence with agents on the subject of commission. There is no objection to the second reading of the Bill, but I would prefer that it be not taken another stage until the return is brought down.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I have no recollection of such a return being ordered this Session. The whole correspondence was before the House last Session.

Mr. BLAKE. Is there no subsequent correspondence?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. No subsequent correspondence, except respecting the arrangement made at that time.

Bill read the second time, considered in Committee, and reported.

## TELEGRAPH COMMUNICATION WITH BERMUDA.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I wish to state to the hon. member for Halifax, by way of explanation, that the other day, when I answered the question put by him with respect to correspondence between the Imperial and this Government, as to the establishment of a telegraph line with Bermuda, I was mistaken—I had forgotten that there existed some correspondence on this subject; and, therefore, I have thought it best to correct the matter by laying this correspondence on the Table.

## PACIFIC RAILWAY RATES.

Mr. BLAKE. I mentioned some points, yesterday, which I suppose require investigation as to returns required under the Consolidated Act. I notice that one return on the subject of rates and tolls is antedated, and has reference to some other parts of returns that relate to action taken on the 9th of April, 1881. It gives certain special rates and through rates, and local rates, but the through rates concern only a very small portion of the line, as it now exists, and which has been open for traffic, as the newspapers inform us, for some months. Reference is made to an application on the subject of a further tariff, but I would suppose that no arrangement had been reached for a tariff of through rates for those portions of the railway which have been opened since the 9th of April, 1881—this seems to affect the return vitally; but I assume, that no tariff has been fixed at all for through rates beyond the small extent of it, which could be arranged under the Act of 1881. Besides the absence of any correspondence on the subject of the tariff, I notice that the report of the engineer states that a further tariff

is under consideration; if so, it must have been sent in by the Company in draft and submitted to the Government; and if this is the case, correspondence must exist respecting it, and the Company's proposal with reference to this tariff ought to be laid on the Table in pursuance of the Resolution passed by this House, though a decision on it by the Government had not been reached.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. That is the fact; a decision by the Government on this subject has not been reached—the Railway Company has made application for a tariff; but it is not finally determined. When a tariff, however, is adopted, all the necessary information will be laid before the House.

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman will see, that if that is the state of things there is no authority for a through rate on the part of the Railway Company in the North-West; and if the hon. gentleman proposes so far to vary from the Resolution, as to submit the correspondence which has passed on the subject of the proposed tariff, because a decision by the Government has not yet been reached, I think it reasonable to enquire whether he intends that this decision shall be reached in such time that the necessary papers can be submitted to the House during the present Session; else, obviously, if the decision be reserved until it will be too late for consideration during the present Session that will be highly objectionable to the House.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I will answer the hon. gentleman, when I make a more specific statement on the subject than I can at this moment.

## SHIPPING TELEGRAPH LINE.

Mr. MITCHELL enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to construct a telegraph line, in the interest of shipping, from Chatham to Escuminac Light-house?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor to state, in answer to my hon. friend, that this matter is now receiving the best consideration of the Government.

## INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

Mr. MITCHELL enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to establish communication by schooner or steam between the Intercolonial Railway at Newcastle and Chatham, and the villages of Burnt Church, Neguac, Tabusintac, Black Brook, Baie de Vent and the Islands at the mouth of the Miramichi, for the purpose of promoting the extension of the fresh fish exportation, and thus increasing the traffic on the Intercolonial Railway?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I may say, Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member, that an application has been received by the Government on this subject, and referred to the Superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway for his report. When we have received that report, we will be able to state to the hon. gentleman what the Government proposes to do respecting this matter.

## THE WASHINGTON TREATY.

Mr. MITCHELL enquired, Whether any correspondence has passed, of which the Government have any intimation, between the Government of the United States and the British Minister at Washington, or between the Government of the United States and the British Government, in relation to a notice of termination of the Fishery clauses of the Washington Treaty, or having any bearing thereon?

Mr. McLELAN. Mr. Speaker, I beg to say, in answer to the hon. gentleman, that the British Minister at Wash-