

Mr. FOSTER. Then, the hon. gentleman's reports which have been brought down include all the dismissals?

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. Include all the dismissals.

Mr. FOSTER. The statement is, that up to April, 1897, no dismissals were made as a sequel to these reports.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. The hon. gentleman was tardy in making his dismissals. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I want to call the attention of the acting Minister of the Interior to the fact that Mr. Ogilvie's report on the Yukon, referred to in the report of the Department of the Interior for 1899, and about which the hon. gentleman telegraphed in May to Mr. Ogilvie, has not yet been brought down. The report which the hon. gentleman laid on the Table does not seem to be that report, and it is necessary that that report should come down. Has the hon. gentleman yet received any answer to his telegram as to that?

Mr. JAS. SUTHERLAND (North Oxford). I have received no answer, and only this forenoon I wrote officially to Mr. Ogilvie asking for an explanation as to why the report was not sent, and why the three telegrams, which, I understand, were sent since this matter was referred to in the House, were not answered. I did, as my hon. friend knows, the very best I could. I have collected every possible information in the department with regard to the Yukon district which came from the commissioner.

Mr. FOSTER. I believe the acting minister has done everything he could to get the report; but I would call the attention of the government to what is rather a serious matter, that although Mr. Ogilvie has now been telegraphed to three times by the acting minister to forward that report, he has not even answered the telegrams, and now, in the last days of the session, the minister is reduced to sending an official communication to him asking for an explanation. Mr. Ogilvie has a great many absolute powers, but he ought not to have the absolute power of disregarding the orders of the acting minister.

Sir LOUIS DAVIES.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). I think the hon. gentleman should be loth to say that he is disregarding the orders of the minister.

Mr. FOSTER. Three telegrams?

The PRIME MINISTER. Yes, but the Yukon is a very uncertain country. Mr. Ogilvie may be in the interior or absent somewhere else. I would not be disposed to assume that Mr. Ogilvie is acting in defiance of the order of the minister. Of course, we shall have an explanation.

Mr. FOSTER. I would suggest that another telegram be sent. Though we shall be here for some time yet, I am afraid we shall not be here long enough to get a letter to the Yukon and an answer by letter.

Mr. SUTHERLAND. I felt very much the same as the hon. gentleman did about it, and I asked for an explanation.

Mr. FOSTER. The hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper), has asked me to call to the attention of the hon. minister his request that Mr. Ryley's statements should be placed in his hands before he takes up that matter, so that Mr. Ryley's counter statements may be known.

Mr. SUTHERLAND. I read over the remarks of the hon. member for Pictou with Mr. Ryley, and there were one or two references in them that neither of us could understand. I have been waiting the return of the hon. member so as to have an explanation from him, and I promise that we will then immediately have Mr. Ryley's explanation placed in his hands.

Mr. FOSTER. The hon. member for Pictou would like to know what answer Mr. Ryley has to make.

Mr. SUTHERLAND. It would be difficult for Mr. Ryley to give a complete answer when he does not understand exactly what the hon. member for Pictou refers to.

Mr. FOSTER. I would like to know also when the papers promised, respecting the order of February 7, 1900, with reference to Dominion Creek, will be brought down?

Mr. SUTHERLAND. I have explained to the hon. member for Pictou privately, that there are no papers in the department, ex-