

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS:** It is not. The Post Office expenditure is largely in excess of the revenue.

**Mr. DELORME (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Whether it is the intention of the Government to bring down a measure to facilitate the incorporation of the different Boards of Trade of the Dominion, now applying, or which may hereafter apply for an Act of Incorporation?

**Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD:** It is not. Any Board of Trade can obtain an Act of Incorporation without difficulty.

**Mr. THOMPSON (Cariboo):** Whether it is the intention of the Government to assimilate, during the present year, the postal arrangements in British Columbia to those in the other Provinces, by extending the Money Order System to that Province where Post Office Orders are now only issued on Great Britain?

**Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS** said it was the intention of the Postmaster General to send a Post Office Inspector to British Columbia, and on his report action would be taken.

**Hon. Mr. HUTCHISON** in moving for a Return of all officers pensioned since the 1st of July last, complained of the manner in which the Act had been put in force in New Brunswick. An old man who had been appointed to an office in his District had received a pension of \$400 after four years' service, and a brother of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Hon. Senator Mitchell) had been appointed in his place.

He (Hon. Mr. Hutchison) complained of the manner in which the patronage was dispensed in that Province. Nothing could be done without the intervention of the Minister of Marine, and whenever he sought information in any of the Departments he was always met with the answer, "Go to the Minister of Marine". (*Laughter.*) As there was another motion on the paper with regard to the Superannuation Act he would allow his to drop, reserving further remarks until the other motion came up.

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#### GRENVILLE CANAL

**Mr. METCALFE** in moving for copies of tenders sent in for repairing or enlarging the Grenville Canal, remarked that it had been said that there was some irregularity in the letting of the contract. It had been usual with parties, many of whom knew little or nothing about the construction of works, to give in several Tenders under different names for the same contract, and if it turned out that there were lower tenders the parties were bought off in some way, and the contract secured. In England, where a contractor was known to be interested in several Tenders, the whole were thrown out, and he thought the same system should be adopted here. The motion was carried.

**Mr. McDOUGALL (Renfrew South)** moved for copies of Instructions, Correspondence, &c., respecting certain divisions of the Canadian Pacific Railway Survey. He stated, with reference to the Divisions in his part of the country, that there had been great mismanagement and unnecessary expense, and thought that the country should know who had been the cause of such mismanagement. In the Ottawa Valley it was well known that the laboring men, axemen, &c., who had been engaged were unfit for the service and the Commissariat had been neglected. When the men had gone about 100 miles of their journey they had been obliged to wait for nearly a month so that they might get the provisions absolutely necessary for them, and when they did arrive it was found that a large amount was useless. For instance, three barrels of flour to 100 barrels of sugar had been sent, and 30 yards of sticking plaster for forty men. (*Laughter.*)

He alluded to the dismissal of the Engineer on Division C, and thought that the result of the investigation into his case should be laid before the country. He presumed that that gentleman had no other means of supporting himself by his professional labor, and as stains might now attach to him, it was only right that the report should be before the House, in order that he might be cleared, if not guilty of neglect.

**Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN** said there was no objection to the motion. In answer to the remarks of the hon. gentleman, he would say that in those surveys, as well as in all others of such an extent, some mismanagement would occur; but taking the whole extent of the survey, everything had been done that could be done. A proper survey had been made within the time fixed by the Act. The hon. gentleman might have been wrongly informed as to the mismanagement; but, at all events, the 30 yards of sticking plaster would not amount to much. The papers would be brought down.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** desired to ask the Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Langevin) whether he intended to place any general report of the progress of this survey on the table before taking any action with regard to the Pacific Railway. He thought it important that the House should have the information before going into the discussion of the subject.

**Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN** replied that it was the intention of the Government to lay the report before the House as soon as possible.

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#### GAUGES OF INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

**Mr. BODWELL** in moving that the House go into committee to consider a Resolution declaring it desirable to adopt the 4 feet 8 1/2 inch gauge in the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, said that he did not make the motion from any feeling of hostility to the enterprise, but in the interests of the country. He did not purpose to discuss the subject of the location of the road, or refer to the