

Mr. Jones (Halifax), enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce, during the present session, any measure having for its object the extension of the bounty system of Canada over the fisheries of the whole Dominion?

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald said the subject was under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. Jones (Leeds), enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to impose an export duty on sawed lumber, stove-bolts and shingle-bolts leaving the Dominion of Canada?

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald said it was not the present intention of the Government.

Mr. Bertrand enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to authorize the sale of the lands reserved for the Indians, and to fix the conditions upon which such lands may be sold to settlers who are desirous of occupying them?

Hon. Mr. Langevin said it was not in the power of the government to sell those lands without the consent of the Indians.

Hon. Mr. Johnson enquired whether it is the intention of the Government, when the surveys of the proposed lines for the Intercolonial Railway have been completed, and the Engineers' report thereof made to the Government, and before recommending any line for approval of the Imperial Government, to lay the Engineers' report before the House?

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald said that all the questions relating to the Intercolonial Railway would come up when the Bill was before the House, which the Government had already promised to introduce.

Mr. Thompson (Haldimand) enquired whether the Government intend taking any steps with a view of bringing that portion of the Six Nation Indian Reserve in the county of Haldimand into market.

Hon. Mr. Langevin said if an offer was made for the purchase of the Reserve the Government would be prepared to negotiate with the Indians, with the view of ascertaining whether they were willing to surrender their lands.

[Mr. McDougall (Lanark North)]

LIEUT.-COL. DENNIS

Mr. McCallum moved an address for the evidence and proceedings taken at the Court of Enquiry on the conduct of Lieut.-Col. Dennis, at Fort Erie, on the 2nd June, 1866.

Hon. Mr. Cartier said it was not the intention of Government to allow this address, because it would not conduce to the interests of the country to bring down the evidence asked for at this time.

Mr. McCallum regretted the unwillingness of the Government to bring down the papers in this case. He did not think it in the interest of the country and of the volunteer force to suppress evidence given at a court, no matter whether it showed Col. Dennis to have been remiss in his duty or otherwise. He believed the court had whitewashed Col. Dennis, and in order to form a fair judgment the country was entitled to know the result of the enquiry.

Mr. Mackenzie believed the regret a very reasonable one. Non-publicity of evidence had given a great deal of dissatisfaction in Western Canada. It was useless to attempt to bolster up the character of any officer of the volunteer force, and if the evidence in this case was not made public, it would lead to the impression that the charges brought against Colonel Dennis were true. If published, everybody could form their own opinion in regard to the matter. He (Mr. Mackenzie) believed that charges had also been made against another officer of the volunteers, a gentleman residing in the County of Simcoe, and in regard to them, the public press, no doubt maliciously, had made certain statements of a somewhat noteworthy character. It would be well to bring down evidence in this case also, so that the public might see that the charge of cowardice made against that officer was unfounded. (Hear, hear).

Mr. Sproat believed that it would be a great deal better for the volunteer force of Western Canada, if the evidence in this case was made public, and he trusted the Government would reconsider their decision not to bring the papers down. He spoke as an officer of volunteers, knowing the injurious effect of withholding all facts of this kind.

Hon. Mr. Cartier said, that all were animated by a desire to encourage the Volunteers and Service Militia of the Dominion. This enquiry took place more than a year ago, shortly after the Fenian invasion. Before