

# House of Commons Debates.

FIFTH SESSION—EIGHTH PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1900.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

### FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 131)—from the Senate—for the relief of Edwin James Cox.—(Mr. Montague.)

### EXODUS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. H. F. McDOUGALL (Cape Breton). Before the Orders of the Day are called, I wish to draw the attention of the government to a despatch from St. John, N.B., that I find in a Montreal newspaper :

St. John, N. B., April 4 (special).—The exodus from the maritime provinces to the United States is larger this spring than for many years. Every train and steamer leaving St. John for Boston carries away some young men and women from the city or the interior.

I may say that two or three weeks ago, I was travelling on the Intercolonial Railway train, and every car was so crowded that there was hardly standing room. The baggage car on that train broke down, and it took two hours at Rivière du Loup to transfer the baggage to another car to allow the train to proceed. I would like to ask if the government are doing anything to stop this exodus ?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). I think it will probably be found that

the people referred to were on the way to Sydney to engage in the great enterprises which are being established there.

Mr. CASGRAIN. Unfortunately, they are going the other way.

Mr. McDOUGALL. A paid government officer was in charge of them to take them across the line to the United States.

### REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I am sorry the Postmaster General (Mr. Mulock) is not in his seat, and I would like to ask the right hon. gentleman (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) when the report of the Postmaster General will be brought down. It is a very important report, and it is almost impossible to discuss estimates until it is brought down.

### THE MOUNTED POLICE ACTS.

Mr. NICHOLAS FLOOD DAVIN (West Assiniboia). There are on the list of Public Bills and Orders three Bills, one an Act to amend the Mounted Police Pension Act, and if the right hon. gentleman will refer to a speech of his made in 1898, he will find he has accepted the principle of that Bill. Then, there is Bill No. 19, to amend the Mounted Police Act of 1894, and if he will read the discussion that took place in 1898 and 1899, he will find that he promised to consider the legislation provided for here. Then, there is the Land Titles Act, and I think the Solicitor General (Mr. Fitzpatrick)