

be still further extended with the progress of settlement. The reason why, for the present, the eastern limit of Manitoba does not adjoin the western limit of Ontario is that the Sioux Indians living in large numbers west of Lake Superior, and east of the 96th meridian, are unfriendly to the Hudson's Bay Company and the Fort Garry settlers; and that therefore to place them under even the nominal jurisdiction of the Local Government at Fort Garry, might be productive of great mischief. The reason is no doubt a good one, and until the Indians can be prevailed upon quietly to surrender such territorial rights as British practice has always recognized them to possess in common, the mere assertion over them of Provincial authority from Fort Garry could not possibly be productive of good. In the matter of land titles the Government, as we have already explained, provide means, in every case of actual settlement and undisputed possession, to convert the title to a freehold from the Crown. This is a wise provision, because all who take advantage of it will thereby bar all claims that might in future arise were the Hudson's Bay Company's title to be called in question. The enlargement of the Territory by which the population has been increased has also been followed by an addition of 200,000 acres to the reserve for the half-breeds and their families, the total reservation being 1,400,000 acres, instead of 1,200,000 as at first proposed. These reserves are only to be given to actual settlers; and no claims where actual possession and settlement do not exist, are to receive any better legal status than they now possess. This course is eminently fair. If rights to land have been acquired either under Lord Selkirk's Settlement, or from the Hudson's Bay Company, it would be an unwarrantable interference with them for the Legislature of Canada to bar their owners from such redress as the law allows; but at the same time it is the mission of Canada to promote actual settlement, not speculation in real estate; and therefore the settler in quiet possession is to have the option of placing his title beyond risk of dispute.

At a future time it will be necessary to dispose of the Territory intervening between Ontario and Manitoba by attaching it to one or other of these Provinces. To make another Province between them would be a needless and costly multiplication of Legislative machinery; and to add the Territory to the larger Province would not be promotive of the preservation of the "balance of power" between the Provinces. But in the meantime it is better perhaps that the Dominion should retain direct jurisdiction over that comparatively barren region, at least until a proper line of communication by railroad or otherwise is established through it. The exceptional difficulties in the way of transporting goods into the Settlement have been fully recognised by continuing for three years the almost nominal tariff of four per cent. *ad valorem* on all imported articles except spirituous liquors. By that time it is hoped the means of communication and progress of settlement will have so far advanced as to enable the Province to take its proportionate share of the fiscal burthens of the Dominion. The whole of the North-West region not embraced in the new Province will, on the issue of the Queen's proclamation completing the transfer to Canada, come under the jurisdiction of the Dominion Government; and Ministers have declared their intention of applying a portion of the lands for aiding the construction of railways. The success which has attended this policy in the United States has placed its wisdom beyond doubt; and we shall be glad to see it introduced on a liberal scale in the North-West region.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

THE SENATE.

Wednesday, May 4.—The Canadian Vessels Discipline Bill, from the Commons, was read a third time and passed. In answer to Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON, Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said a correspondence relating to reciprocity was going on between the Dominion Government and the British Minister at Washington, but not with the American Government. Several private bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, May 5.—Nothing of importance took place on Thursday, the House adjourning until Saturday afternoon.

Saturday, May 7.—The Promissory Notes Bills and the Bank of Upper Canada Bill were read a first time. Also, the Bill respecting the inspection of Raw Hides and the Bill relating to Brands for marking Timber. Hon. Mr. SEYMOUR moved the consideration of the Fifth Report of the Select Committee on Contingent Accounts. Carried. Hon. Mr. MCPHERSON moved the consideration of the Fourth Report of the Select Committee on Contingent Accounts, relating to the reporting scheme. Carried. The House then adjourned.

Monday, May 9.—The Tariff Bill was read a first time. Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST gave notice that he should move the six months' hoist. Hon. Mr. WILMOT would second the motion, Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL warned the House of the effect of the motion, which would be to bring the two Houses into collision. Hon. Mr. MCPHERSON moved an amendment to the amendment to the effect that the imposition of duties on coal and breadstuffs would be partial in their effect, and would inflict injustice on important interests. Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON seconded the amendment to the amendment. After a long debate the House

divided on the amendment, which was lost: Yeas, 24, Nays 28. The motion for the second reading was carried by a majority of four. The House adjourned at 12 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, May 3.—Mr. MACKENZIE complained of delay in proceeding with the business of the session. Copies of the North-West Bill were not yet in the hands of the members. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the bill had been hurried down in an unfinished state, several clauses being yet incomplete. The Government were still occupied in receiving deputations from the people. He said, in reply to Hon. Mr. McDUGALL, that the steps taken had been in consonance with the views of the Imperial Government. The delay in bringing down the measure had been unavoidable, as it would have been impossible for the Government to draw up a constitution for the North-West before they knew where the shoe pinches. They had, therefore, to await the arrival of the delegates and others from Red River. He asked the member for Lambton to assist rather than oppose the Government in its measure. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had never opposed the Government on personal grounds, but he must protest against the reception of these so-called delegates, who were only the representatives of rebels. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said it had been distinctly stated at the beginning of the session that the delegates would be received by the Government as delegates. Mr. RYMAL denied this. Sir JOHN said the reports would show it to be the case. Mr. RYMAL would sooner trust his own ears than the reports. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD repeated that he had told the House that they would be received; and he did not see why they should not, as one of them was a chief magistrate of the territory, a man of unimpeachable character and unquestionable loyalty. He had the authority of the Governor-General for stating that it had all along been his intention to receive these delegates. As an imperial officer and as the representative of Her Majesty, he was bound to receive them. The Canadian Government, in receiving them, had only carried out the intentions of the Imperial Government, and had done so with but one object in view—the peaceable possession of the territory by Canada—and they would spare no effort to accomplish this object. Mr. BELLEROSE said he could not believe Dr. Lynch after the falsehood of which he had been guilty in charging Father Ritchot with complicity in the murder of Scott. Hon. Mr. McDUGALL said the whole country of the North-West knew that Father Ritchot and Father Lestane had been the principal supporters and instigators of the rebellion, and regretted that the Minister of Militia should have given such a man the cordial reception he did. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER defended his action in the matter; he denied that anyone had any right to interfere with what friends he saw. He expressed his sympathy for the disappointment of the hon. member, especially as it had also been a disappointment for the Ministry. Hon. Mr. HOWE wished to know if it were more disgraceful to treat with Riel now than it was for the member for North Lanark after he had been driven from the country, when he wrote to Riel a sneaking, infamous letter, asking him to meet him secretly. Hon. Mr. McDUGALL retorted that when he wrote to Riel he had done so to meet the proceedings of a traitor whom he knew to be in the Cabinet, a man with whom he was obliged to hold official communication. This man had done all in his power to bring the Canadian authorities into contempt and to prejudice the minds of the people of the territory, and it was to counteract the effect of this conduct that he had acted as he did. The matter then dropped, and the House went into committee on the Superannuation resolutions, and passed them without amendment. The Bank of Upper Canada Bill was also passed through committee without amendment, and the House then adjourned at six o'clock.

Wednesday, May 4.—Mr. MACKENZIE moved for all the correspondence on the North-West question, especially that with the Imperial Government.—Carried. Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked what sums stood to the credit of the Dominion, at banks or bank agents in Canada or England, on the 1st of March last. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said there were held at various banks in Canada \$1,181,638; with the London agents \$988,011, which was held to meet the payment of dividends. The bill to amend the Act respecting Justices of the Peace out of Session, and the Bill to amend the Act imposing duties on Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange, were considered in committee, reported without amendment, and read a third time. The debate on Hon. Mr. WOOD's motion relative to the sums payable under the Municipal Loan Fund Act of 1859, to the townships of Lower Canada, was resumed, and, after a brief discussion, adjourned. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS moved the discharge of the Bill respecting the currency, and gave his reasons for so doing. A great difference of opinion existed as to whether the Dominion currency should be assimilated to that of Nova Scotia, or that it be assimilated to that of the other provinces. Hon. Mr. HOLTON taunted the Ministry with being unable to bring about an assimilation of the currency. Order discharged. The bill to vest in Her Majesty the property and powers now vested in the trustees of the Bank of Upper Canada was read a third time and passed. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS then moved concurrence in the Superannuation Resolutions. The resolutions having passed, a bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD then moved the second reading of the Bill respecting the Province of Manitoba. Mr. MACKENZIE objected, as the bill had only been distributed an hour before. Sir JOHN replied that his only object in moving the second reading of the bill was to state in what respects the bill, as it was now in the hands of members, varied from the provisions of the bill as had been stated at the first reading. In the first place the boundaries of the province would be changed, Portage la Prairie being included in the Province of Manitoba. The dimensions of the province, and the number of its inhabitants being thus increased, it would also be necessary to increase the amount of debt with which it would be held to come into the Dominion, and to increase the interest upon it which it would receive from the Dominion Government. The population taken in under the original proposition was 15,000, which would now be increased to 17,000; and therefore the interest allowed would be increased in proportion. On the same principle the reserve of lands for the children of the half-breeds would be increased from 1,200,000 acres, as first proposed, to 1,400,000 acres. After some further remarks Sir JOHN moved the second reading. Some debate ensued on a statement made by Mr. MACKENZIE that the suppressed portion of Vicar-General Thibault's report had been distributed to the favourites of the Government. After some further remarks, Hon. Mr. GRAY moved the adjournment of the debate. Carried. The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Sup-

plementary Estimates. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said these estimates would not have been so large, had it not been for the threatened Fenian raid, which involved much extra expense. Hon. Mr. HOLTON said the magnitude of these estimates was startling, and even if the heavy expense charged for the supposed Fenian raid were deducted, the amount would still be enormous. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS went on to explain the items, showing that some of them were revotes, and others of them merely advances for services already authorized by Parliament. The following items were then passed:—Civil Government, \$2,480; Dominion Police, \$7,500; Legislative, (Printing, Binding, and Distributing Laws), \$2,146.41; Geological Survey and Observatories, \$200; Immigration and Quarantine, \$12,668; Ocean and River Steam Service, \$500. On the item, \$200,000 to meet expenditure incurred in repelling the threatened invasion by the Fenians, a lengthy discussion took place, in which Mr. D. A. MACDONALD and Mr. MACKENZIE attacked the Government. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER justified the course taken by the Ministers as they had acted on information worthy of credit. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD also defended the Government. The item was ultimately carried and Committee rose and reported. The House adjourned at 1.30.

Thursday, May 5.—The House went again into Committee of Supply and passed the following items:—Light House and Coast Service, \$29,916; Fisheries, \$26,963; Cutlers, \$10,000; Customs, \$20,000; Post Office (Money Order and Savings Bank Departments) \$6,000; Public Works, \$21,163.78. The item of \$96.61, to pay the Montreal Board of Trade for expenses incurred in the appointment of Official Assignees, was withdrawn. On the item \$1,460,000 for opening communication with, establishing government in, and providing for settlement of the North-West Territories, including expedition to Red River (Revote), Hon. Mr. HOLTON objected to the expenses of the proposed expedition being mixed up in a lump sum with the vote of \$1,300,000, to which the member for Soulanges had moved an amendment. He maintained that the Government had done this in order to evade discussion with regard to the expedition. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS could not see that this was the case, as every one knew that an expedition was going to the North-West. If the House were unwilling to grant the item the proper course would be to take a straight vote and refuse it. Hon. J. H. CAMERON said both the House and the country would support the Government in this matter, but some specific information respecting the expedition should be brought down. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said it was impossible for the Government to fix the exact amount required, but they had asked for what they believed to be a reasonable sum. Hon. Mr. DORION thought all the information on the subject should be brought down, so that the House could form an opinion for itself as to the amount that would be required. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that according to an act passed last year it was not necessary for the Government to bring down again the vote, already passed, of \$1,460,000 for opening up communication with and establishing a government in the North-West, in addition to a sum of £300,000 to be paid to the Hudson Bay Company. He asked the House not to insist upon having the details of the expedition, as he did not think it would be wise to give them to the country at this time. He asked that the item stand over until the House had adopted the principle of the Manitoba Bill. Mr. F. JONES did not think the sum asked for would be found sufficient. Sir A. T. GALT thought the House should be put in possession of the fullest particulars respecting the expedition. In answer to Hon. Mr. DORION, Hon. Mr. LANGRISH said this year's expenditure on the road from Lake Superior to Fort Garry would amount to \$200,000. Mr. MACKENZIE complained of the wasteful manner in which this road had been constructed. After all, he did not think the expedition would find it of much use. Mr. MASSON (Soulanges) did not see the object of the expedition unless it were to satisfy the strong party feeling that existed. He trusted that Riel would soon leave the Territory, as by his misconduct the whole of the French Canadian population had been branded as rebels. He contended that the Government had no right to enforce their measure upon the people of the North-West by the aid of an armed force, and that by so doing they were only increasing the national debt, which was large enough already. The debate on the item then dropped. The Customs Bill was read a second time on a division, and at once read a third time and passed. The debate on the Manitoba Bill was then resumed by Hon. Mr. GRAY, who said he would support the Bill. Mr. YOUNG reviewed the policy of the Government. He deprecated the delay in handing over the purchase money, and the conduct of the hon. member for Hants while in the North-West; and blamed the Government especially for delaying so long to take steps to vindicate Scott's murder. Mr. MCCALLUM also criticised the policy, blaming the conduct of the member for Hants, also that of Col. DENNIS. Hon. Mr. McDUGALL defended Col. DENNIS. The bill was then read a second time. The Superannuation Bill was read a second time; and the House then went into committee on the supplementary estimates and passed the following items: Unprovided Items, \$51,232.53; Legislation, (Preparation of Maps and Stationery) \$2,800; Public Works and Buildings \$52,000. The following items were also carried: Additions to Kingston Penitentiary, \$4,523.92; To meet expenses of Artillery guns, &c., \$2,000; Trinity House, Quebec, \$5,000; Protection of Bird Island light-house, \$300; To provide for Examination and Classification of Masters and Mates in the Mercantile Marine, \$6,000; To provide for additions to the outside service of the Excise Department, \$5,600; and Post Office expenditure, \$10,000. The item \$2,300 for Dominion Offices in Nova Scotia was allowed to stand over. Committee then rose and reported and asked leave to sit again. The House adjourned at 1 a.m.

Friday, May 6.—On the motion of Sir FRANCIS HINCKS for the third reading of the Superannuation Bill, Mr. JOLY moved an amendment exempting civil servants whose lives were already insured from payment or participation in the benefits of the fund. Lost: yeas, 58; nays, 69. Mr. GODIN moved an amendment entirely altering the system of administration of the fund, but after brief discussion the amendment was ruled out of order. Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved an amendment to exempt from the operation of the Act the officers of the House, as their salaries had been reduced two years ago. Sir GEORGE CARTIER contended that they would derive equal benefit with the rest from the provisions of the Act. The amendment was lost: Yeas, 49; nays, 81. Mr. GODIN moved another amendment which was also lost, and Mr. COSTIGAN moved the three months' hoist. Lost: Yeas, 38; nays, 87. The bill was then read a third time and passed. The clerk then read a message from the Governor-General, transmitting a despatch from the