

SECOND READINGS.

The following Bills were severally read the second time:—

Bill (No. 53) to authorize the Royal Canadian Insurance Company to reduce the number of their Directors.—(Mr. White, Cardwell.)

Bill (No. 55) to incorporate the Live Stock Insurance Company.—(Mr. White, Cardwell.)

Bill (No. 57) respecting the Northern Railway Company of Canada.—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 58) to incorporate the Gananoque, Perth and James' Bay Railway Company.—(Mr. Taylor.)

Bill (No. 59) respecting the Northern and North-Western Junction Railway Company.—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 60) to increase the Harbour Accommodation of the city of Toronto, to extend the Esplanade, and to provide for the control of the use thereof by Railway Companies.—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 61) to amend the Act to incorporate the Synod of the Diocese of Saskatchewan, and for other purposes connected therewith.—(Mr. Williams.)

Bill (No. 62) to incorporate the River St. Clair Tunnel Company.—(Mr. Macmaster.)

Bill (No. 66) to reduce the capital stock of the Maritime Bank of the Dominion of Canada, and to make other provisions respecting the said Bank.—(Mr. Weldon.)

Bill (No. 68) respecting the Kingston and Pembroke Railway Company.—(Mr. Gunn.)

AMOUNTS OWING BY QUEBEC AND ONTARIO.

Mr. LANDRY (Montmagny) enquired, What is the precise amount owing by the Province of Quebec to the Government of Canada? What is the nature of the Dominion claim, and for what objects was that debt of the Province of Quebec contracted? How long has the said debt existed, and what has been the annual increase thereof? Has the Dominion claim been contested? If so, what is the nature of the contestation?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. In reply to the hon. member, I may say that the most complete answer that can be given is furnished by the papers just laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. LANDRY (Montmagny) enquired, What is the exact amount owing by the Province of Ontario to the Government of Canada? Has this Federal claim been contested, and for what reasons?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I have to give the hon. member the same answer—the papers furnish the best answer to his question.

SALE OF LIFE ANNUITIES.

Mr. HALL enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government, in addition to the Savings Branch of the Postal Service, to introduce any system of receiving deposits in connection with the sale of life annuities?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. In reply to the hon. member, I may say that the Government are considering the subject; and I will be happy to have communication with the hon. member in regard to it, if he will afford me the opportunity.

JOHN CORBETT.

Mr. LISTER enquired, Is John Corbett an employé of the Government; if so, in which Department employed, and nature of employment or service, date of appointment and salary? If not so employed, when and why his connection with the Government ceased?

Mr. McLELAN. In reply to the hon. gentleman, I may say that John Corbett is in the employment of the Department of Marine and Fisheries; that he attends to the repairing of lighthouses and inspects new lighthouses; that he has been so employed since June 18th, 1880, at a salary of \$100 per month.

ELGIN ROAD, COUNTY OF L'ISLET.

Mr. CASGRAIN enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to erect a station-house at the Elgin Road Station, county of L'Islet, on the Intercolonial Railway?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I may say, in answer to the hon. member, that I have received a number of petitions and communications from various members of Parliament on this matter, and it is now under the consideration of the Department.

COLCHESTER REEF LIGHTHOUSE.

Mr. LISTER enquired, Has the contract for the Colchester Reef Lighthouse been taken off the hands of the contractor? What amounts have been paid to the contractor on account of the work? When were the payments made?

Mr. McLELAN. In reply to the hon. gentleman, I may say that the contract for the Colchester Reef Lighthouse has not been taken out of the hands of the contractor. \$5,000 have been paid to the contractor on account of the work: \$3,000 in October, and \$2,000 in August, 1883.

SICK AND DISTRESSED MARINERS.

Mr. KAULBACH enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to amend 45 Victoria, Chapter 19 of the Acts of 1882, intitled: "An Act to exempt vessels employed in fishing from the payment of duties for the relief of Sick and Distressed Mariners," so as to enable the fishermen of the Dominion to participate in the benefits of the fund, and the advantages of the Marine Hospital?

Mr. McLELAN. I have been collecting information from the representatives of fishing counties in Nova Scotia, and have obtained such information as I think will enable us to remedy the evil. I have a Bill in course of preparation, which I intend to submit, and which, I think, will meet the requirements of the case.

SECURITY FOR ADVANCE TO THE EXCHANGE BANK.

Mr. HOLTON enquired, Why did the Finance Minister not accept the personal security of Mr. Alexander Buntin for the last advance of \$100,000 to the Exchange Bank of Canada when offered, as well as that of the Hon. A. W. Ogilvie?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The Government decided to accept security from either of these gentlemen. Mr. Ogilvie came and tendered his security, and it was accepted.

LEASE OF GOVERNMENT MILLS IN NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron) enquired, Have any of the saw and grist mills, erected by the Dominion of Canada, in the North-West Territories, been sold, leased, or otherwise disposed of? If so, how disposed of, when, to whom, at what price, how paid or payable? Was the disposal by public auction, or private sale?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The saw and grist mills at Old Man's River was sold by the Indian Department to Mr. Peter McLaren, for \$10,000, on October 22nd, 1881. The