

the effect of that will be upon the trade of the Dominion. The paragraph is somewhat difficult to understand, unless we are in possession of information from the Government.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. As I have mentioned before, I have ready to lay on the Table of the House a number of papers connected with fisheries negotiations. I have not them all, as many of them were private communications. The assent has been obtained from the British Ambassador, and on the return of His Excellency, which will be on Wednesday, I will be in a position to lay the papers before the House. With respect to the other question asked: I saw the notice in the newspapers. There has been no communication at all on that point between Washington and Ottawa. It does not refer to the bonding system, but to the privilege given in 1871, principally in the interest of the Welland Railway. The American coasting laws are very rigid, and American vessels starting from Chicago for Oswego or Ogdensburg were not allowed to touch our coast. They could go through the Welland Canal as being a portion of the navigation, without being supposed to touch at a Canadian port; but many of those vessels draw too much water when laden to get through the Welland Canal, and so they are in the habit of stopping at the Erie terminus of the Welland Railway, landing their cargoes, going through the canal light, and resuming cargo at the Ontario terminus, the cargo having been carried over the Welland Railway. It appears this notice is to do away with that privilege.

Mr. MITCHELL. May I ask if that is the only effect of it. It is exceedingly ambiguous, and there is a good deal of uncertainty felt in regard to it by merchants.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is no uncertainty. If the hon. gentleman will look at the treaty he will see how the matter stands. It has nothing to do with the bonding system whatever.

Mr. BLAKE. It is an exhibition of good will on the part of the Americans to lead us to agree to the other arrangement.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It may be so.

Mr. WELDON. Will the hon. gentleman bring down the correspondence with Newfoundland with respect to duties.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The telegraphic despatches will be brought down.

THIRD READINGS.

Bill (No. 154) further to amend the Act relating to the culling and measuring of timber in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.—(Mr. Costigan.)

Bill (No. 152) to amend the Consolidated Militia Act, 1883.—(Mr. Caron.) (On a division.)

SETTLEMENT OF MANITOBA CLAIMS.

Mr. BOWELL moved third reading of Bill (No. 155) for the final settlement of the claims made by the Province of Manitoba on the Dominion.

Mr. WATSON. I would like to ask the Minister whether he has received any information from the Department of the Interior as to the quantity of land which would be transferred to Manitoba under this arrangement.

Mr. BOWELL. I am not in a position to give the hon. gentleman the information he asks. I have not been able to obtain it.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the third time and passed.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

Mr. CHAPLEAU moved that the Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 156) to restrict and regulate Chinese immigration into the Dominion of Canada be discharged; and that the House again resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on the Bill for the further consideration of the last clause. He said: I wish to make a slight amendment in the last clause of the Bill, namely, to insert the words "other matters" after the word "vessel," in the 23rd clause.

Motion agreed to, and Bill recommitted, amended, reported as amended, and read the third time, and passed.

WAYS AND MEANS—THE DISTURBANCE IN THE NORTH-WEST.

Mr. BOWELL moved that the House again resolve itself into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. BLAKE. I desire, before this motion is carried, to bring before the House, a question of which I gave notice at the earliest possible moment. I gave notice, through my hon. friend from South Huron (Sir Richard Cartwright), of my intention of bringing up the question of the North-West on the same evening on which the First Minister brought down the last papers which he said he intended to bring down this Session, and since that time I have been awaiting the opportunity which now, perhaps a little unexpectedly, has arisen. I rise to charge upon the Government, in their administration of affairs in the North-West, grave instances of neglect, delay and mismanagement, prior to the recent outbreak, in matters deeply affecting the peace, welfare and good government of this country. I do not intend to touch upon many questions connected with the administration of affairs in the North-West, which yet prove, in my judgment, the truth of that accusation, but which, for all that, are more remotely connected with the particular events which will form, so far as I am concerned, the subject of the present discussion. For example, the general railway policy, the general tariff policy, the general policy of inflation, the general land policy, the general use that has been made of the domain, and of the power to appoint to offices by the Government—that conduct, generally speaking, which, without special reference to this matter, led an eminent publicist, not devoted to either party, after a visit to that country during the late summer, in which, indeed, he did not touch the regions which are particularly affected by the present disturbances, but in which he saw what was to be seen and heard what was to be heard along the great line of railway communication—I say which led that eminent publicist, Mr. Goldwin Smith, in a review of his visit, to use these words:

"Nobody doubts that the intentions of the Ottawa Government towards the North-West, are good. But it is a distant Government; its all powerful chief has never himself been in the North-West; and references or appeals to it are tedious and precarious. It is a party Government, and it cannot resist the importunities of hungry partisans, who mark the new and defenceless territory as their perquisite, though the consequence of yielding has inevitably been injurious to the political morality of a young community, the foundation of whose character ought to have been laid in honor. The parliamentary system, though the best for those who are represented, is, for those who are unrepresented, or inadequately represented, the worst."

And again:

"Old politicians think only of voting power; but there is a power besides that of voters, which, if a deaf ear is turned to the remonstrances of the North-West, will probably soon be encountered. Not that there exists the thought of violence. Nowhere is the reign of law more perfect than among these Canadian pioneers. What they contemplate in the last resort, is an appeal to England for release from the Confederation, and for the establishment of the North-West as an independent British colony."

Now, Sir, the matters to which I have referred we have, from time to time, pressed upon the consideration of the Government, and with proofs, though I do not speak of them