

Goulet and Forget, and of the nature of such commission? What were these means? At what date have these means been taken?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Instructions were sent to the Lieutenant Governor of the North-West on the 15th of February to give the information sought for in this question; and I have no doubt he has communicated it to all points.

THE AFFAIR OF DUCK LAKE.

Mr. ROYAL asked, Whether a report has been received from Crozier, the officer of the Mounted Police in command at Fort Carlton, District of Alberta, N. W. T., concerning the affair of Duck Lake on the 26th March last? If such a report has been received, will the Government lay the same upon the Table at the earliest moment for the information of the members of the House?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No report has yet been received from Crozier or from the commissioner, Col. Irvine. This report, when received, will be laid before the House.

STATION AT ST. ROMUALD D'ETCHEMIN.

Mr. GUAY asked, Whether the Government ever promised to establish a regular station at St. Romuald D'Etchemin, county of Lévis, on the Intercolonial Railway? If not, whether it is their intention to establish one soon?

Mr. POPE. I am not aware that any promise has been made, but it is the intention of the Government to have a flag station placed at that point.

DUTY ON WOOLLEN RAGS.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Whether the Government intends to propose legislation, with a view to carry out their pledge, that imported woollen rags shall be dutiable?

Mr. BOWELL. That matter is now under the consideration of the Government.

THE EVACUATION OF CARLTON.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Has any further report been received as to the evacuation of Carlton, and when?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There has not.

SETTLERS CLAIMS—PRINCE ALBERT DISTRICT.

Mr. BLAKE asked, At what date were the reports of the Land Board on the claims of settlers in the Prince Albert District, made on or about April, 1884, and lately laid on the Table, approved by the Minister? At what date was such approval communicated—(1) To the Land Board; (2) To the local agent; (3) To the parties concerned?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is impossible to ask that as a question. Returns can be obtained giving the information required.

HALF-BREED PLOTS, SASKATCHEWAN.

Mr. BLAKE asked, From whom and in what years, were the several reports received from different officials as to the plots occupied by the half-breeds on the Saskatchewan and in its neighborhood?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That is a matter also which must be brought down on a motion for returns.

HALF-BREED SETTLEMENT—UNDISTURBED OCCUPATION.

Mr. BLAKE asked, When and through whom were the half-breeds told individually, under the direction of the Gov-

ernment, that no one of them would be disturbed in the occupation of his settlement? Has the Government a report of the performance of the order to make this statement?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. All the agents have been instructed to inform the half-breeds that they will not be disturbed, and not only have they been so informed by the agents, as I have no doubt, but in all the principal places surveys have been conducted for the purpose of conveying to them their land, and they were informed by the agents, and no doubt the agents were so instructed, that the mode of survey would not in any way interfere with the laying out of the lands granted in the past.

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman has not given the date.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is no particular date. When an individual half-breed made an application he was so informed.

HALF-BREEDS—INDIAN RESERVES AND HOMESTEADS.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Through whom and when were the half-breeds of the Territories told as a whole, under the direction of Government, that if they desired to be treated as Indians there are most liberal reserves to which they could go with the others; but if they desired to be considered white men, they would get 160 acres of land as homesteads? Was any reply received to this intimation? From whom? And when? How and when did the Government learn that the half-breeds were not satisfied with the above proposal and wanted to get land scrip as well as their homesteads?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The Indian Act contains provisions by which half-breeds desiring to do so, and being otherwise qualified, might have become enrolled as Indians. The Dominion Lands Act enables those who were not enrolled as Indians to obtain entries for homesteads and pre-emptions, the same as white men. Indian agents and agents of Dominion Lands have standing instructions to explain the provisions of the law to all concerned. In many instances, half-breeds have been enrolled as Indians, and in many instances half-breeds have obtained entries for homesteads and pre-emption. The Government never learned from any source that they were dissatisfied with these provisions of the law. The scrip to be issued is in extinguishment of the Indian title of those who have not been enrolled as Indians.

HALF-BREEDS OF TERRITORIES—SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Were any, and if so, what steps were taken towards the settlement of the claims of the half-breeds of the territories to be dealt with similarly to those of Red River, between the Sessions of 1879 and that of 1882? At what time were such steps taken?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. If the hon. gentleman will move I will bring down the returns.

SITTINGS OF HALF-BREED COMMISSION.

Mr. BLAKE asked, At what point has the half-breed commission held sittings? How many claims have been presented so far as the Government is advised? How many have been allowed, and how many reserved?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The commission has held sittings at Fort Qu'Appelle and Regina. The commission have reported on 138 claims. The Department has no means of knowing how many yet have been presented. All the claims reported to the Department so far have been allowed.