

the Chambly Canal ; to whom was the contract awarded, and at what price?

Was the contract given to the lowest tenderer, and if not, why not?

The **MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS** (Mr. Blair). The following are the parties who sent in tenders last fall for stone required for the Chambly Canal:—Gervais Brothers, J. Tanguay. Contract was awarded as follows:—Gervais Brothers, for stones (field) about 1 cubic foot, at 80 cents ; J. Tanguay, stones (field), large pieces broken by explosives, average size one-half cubic yard, \$1 ; Gervais Brothers, stones (field), small size, 75 cents ; Gervais Brothers, stones (quarry), average size one-half cubic yard, rough, \$1.10 ; J. Tanguay, stones (quarry), medium size, \$1. The contracts were given to the lowest tenderer in each case.

MILITARY SCHOOL, ST. JOHN'S, P.Q.

Mr. MORIN asked :

Who are the parties who tendered, last fall, for the supply of coal and wood for the military school at St. John's, P.Q. ; did the Government give the contract to the lowest tenderer, as was the invariable practice under the Conservative regime, and if not, why not ; and is it the president of the Liberal Club at St. John's who has secured the contract?

The **MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE** (Sir Richard Cartwright). I am afraid I must ask the hon. gentleman to amend his question. He appears to have introduced statements which may not be entirely correct. If he will amend it in that respect, I shall be happy to answer it.

BUOY SERVICE, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. MACDONALD (King's, P.E.I.) for Mr. Martin, asked :

1. On what date does the contract between the Government and Edward McKay for buoy service at Murray Harbour, in Prince Edward Island, expire?

2. Has the contract been cancelled ? If so, when?

4. If contract is cancelled, have the contractor and his securities been notified?

4. Have new tenders for the service been called for, or a new contract entered into?

5. If a new contract has been entered into, who is the contractor? For what sum is the contract let, and is it let by tender?

6. Have any charges or complaints been made against Edward McKay for neglect of duty, and have they been investigated?

7. Has Edward McKay been paid for his past service according to contract? If not, why not?

The **MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES** (Mr. Davies). 1. The contract is for three years, to terminate on the 3rd of June, 1898. 2, 3, 4 and 5. The contract has not been cancelled, and new tenders have not been called for. 6. Charges and complaints for neglect of duty have been

made against Edward McKay, and an investigation was authorized, but no report has been received from the commissioner. 7. He has been paid \$75 on account. Balance of \$25 is withheld, pending an investigation.

SUBSIDY OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

Mr. DAVIN moved for :

Copies of all letters, petitions, memorials and suggestions received by the Government, or any member thereof, since the 23rd June, 1896, to amend the North-west Territories Act with a view of enlarging the powers of the executive of the North-west Territories and to increase the subsidy of the North-west Territories.

He said : This is a motion of a character such as I have from year to year brought before the House, sometimes with successful results and sometimes without anything being accomplished. Last session, my hon. friend from Alberta (Mr. Oliver), brought forward a motion of a similar kind and nothing resulted from it. Subsequently, a session of the North-west Assembly was held and a memorial was passed which was forwarded to the Dominion Government. That memorial asked for several things, that there is no sign so far that the Government intends to grant. During last session, in regard to one part of the question that that memorial deals with, a member of the executive of the North-west Territories came down to Ottawa, and one of the papers in the Territories had an article on the subject, in which it said :

Mr. Ross's first visit furnishes the Government a fair occasion to prove that the new-born confidence of the people in the Territories has not been misplaced. The attitude of the late Government towards our legislative assembly was of late years most unfriendly. Year after year, the chairman of the executive journeyed to Ottawa to lay the fair and just claims of the North-west Territories before the Government, and year after year these just claims were contemptuously disregarded. The assembly appealed time and again for some definite subsidy, to do away with the hand-to-mouth system, and allow the framing and institution of a progressive policy for the administration of local affairs. A deaf ear was turned to these appeals. Mr. Laurier has thus an early opportunity to demonstrate that he intends to deal justly and generously by the Territories.

Well, Sir, nothing was done last session by the Government of the Prime Minister who was thus appealed to by name, and there does not appear any evidence, from the Queen's Speech or from the Estimates now before us, that there is an intention of doing anything. There is, however, plenty of time for the Government to reconsider its position, and to decide to do something to show itself, as we are told by that paper, more generous than the previous Government. Let me say, Mr. Speaker, in justice to that previous Government, that everything that was done for the North-west