

that there are no Excise regulations that prevent the use of small lever knives for cutting tobacco, such as have been commonly used for cutting single plugs by hand. But many tobacconists, who hold no license as manufacturers, have had in their shops large cutting machines capable of cutting several hundred pounds in one day. The use of such machines is clearly a breach of the law, and, if permitted, would facilitate the cutting and sale of tobacco that had not paid duty.

REPAIRS IN THE CHAMBLY CANAL.

Mr. BENOIT enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to grant the funds necessary to effect repairs of great extent in the Chambly Canal, in order to place it in a condition to afford the facilities of transport necessary for the carrying on of a considerable trade between this country and the United States?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The question is now in the hands of the Chief Engineer of Canals, and I have awaited his report before deciding what is necessary to be done.

RESIDENT JUDGE AT RIMOUSKI.

Mr. Fiset enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government, at an early date, to appoint a resident Judge at Rimouski, in the stead of the Hon. Mr. Justice Maguire, deceased?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. It is the intention of the Government.

LIFE-SAVING STATIONS.

Mr. KEELER enquired, Is it the intention of the Government, in view of the great loss of life by shipwreck of late, to establish any life-saving stations on Lake Ontario?

Mr. POPE (Queens). It is not the intention of the Government to establish any life-saving stations on Lake Ontario. The Government would be quite willing to supply boats at dangerous points, provided individuals or municipalities would agree to man them. Nothing of the kind is done in England.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Mr. CHARLTON enquired, Will the Government inform the House what is the net increase of the public debt for the fiscal year ending 30th June last?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I cannot give the hon. gentleman the exact figures, but I can state the amount within \$1,000 or so. It will be found that \$9,453,000 is about the amount.

DUTY ON SALT.

Mr. FARROW enquired, Is it the intention of the Government to deal with salt as they have with other manufactured products of Canada, by giving a moderate protection to salt against the large quantities of foreign salt brought into Canada yearly, always excepting that for the curing of fish?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It is not the intention of the Government to ask Parliament to change the duty on salt this Session.

MONEY ORDERS.

Mr. WHEELER enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government, at an early date, to reduce the charges for money orders issued in Canada, payable in Canada, Great Britain or the United States?

Mr. LANGEVIN. Correspondence is going on; I cannot just now give a positive answer to the hon. gentleman.

STEAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ST. JOHN, N.B., AND ENGLAND.

Mr. WALLACE (South Norfolk), for Mr. DOMVILLE, enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to

place a sum of money in the Estimates to assist a line of steam communication between the Port of St. John, New Brunswick, and England.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The matter is now engaging the attention of the Government.

INSOLVENT ESTATES.

Mr. WELDON enquired, Whether the Government intend to bring in any measure relating to the disposition of bankrupt or insolvent estates, or for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent persons?

Mr. McDONALD (Pictou). It is not the intention of the Government to introduce any such measure this Session.

THE POSTMASTER OF DOMINION CITY.

Mr. ROYAL enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to remove the Postmaster of Dominion City, or otherwise improve the management of the post office of that locality?

Mr. LANGEVIN. It is not the intention of the Government to remove the Postmaster of Dominion City, but arrangements have been made to improve the management of the post office there.

ADJOURNMENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Mr. BLAKE. I renew the enquiry I made on Friday, and ask what arrangement the Government intend to propose to the House as the period of the adjournment, and its length?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I will, on Wednesday next, move, when this House adjourns on Thursday next it shall stand adjourned until the following Tuesday at Three o'clock p.m., and that when it adjourns on Thursday, the 30th instant, it shall stand adjourned until the following Tuesday at Three o'clock p.m.

FREIGHT AND TICKETS ON THE INTERCOLONIAL.

Mr. LANDRY moved for a statement shewing, since the 1st December, 1879, and up to the 30th November, 1880, these two dates being included, and giving the names of the various stations:—1st. The number of tickets which have been sold at the several stations on the whole length of the line of the Intercolonial Railway; 2nd. The amount in tons, of freight despatched from each of the stations along the line of the Intercolonial Railway; 3rd. The number of tons delivered at each of the stations aforesaid; 4th. The amount of annual salary given to each of the station masters at the respective stations along the line of the Intercolonial Railway.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. There is no objection to bringing down the information contained in this motion, but if the hon. gentleman would call at the department he could be very easily furnished with the means of making a comparison between the amount of work done at any station and the salaries paid to the station masters. I would ask my hon. friend to adopt that course, as the preparation of these returns would involve a good deal of trouble and expense, and, unless there is some public advantage to be gained by it, I think it is not desirable that trouble and expense should be multiplied.

Motion withdrawn.

THE PORT OF HALIFAX.

Mr. RICHEY moved for all correspondence, whether by letter or telegram, between the Department of Railways and Canals or its officers, and the owners of steamships or their agents, and others, relating to rates of freight for grain to England via Halifax, or touching in any way the question of the transportation of grain and other commodities over the Intercolonial Railway, and by steamship or other vessel from