

**Hon. Mr. LAIRD** said it would probably be necessary to conclude one treaty this season, but it was not likely that treaties would be made to cover all the area some hon. gentlemen seemed to think necessary.

The item passed.

The following items also passed:—Boundary surveys, \$119,198; miscellaneous, \$79,300; collection of revenues, \$685,939; Excise, \$227,950; culling timber, \$78,800; weights and measures, \$50,000; inspection of staples, \$3,000; public works, \$2,867,845; Post Office, \$1,505,500; surveys of Dominion Lands, \$100,000; minor revenues, \$10,000; Pacific Railway Survey, \$500,000.

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### CANAL DE LA BAIE VERTE

On the item of \$500,000 for Canal de la Baie Verte,

**Mr. MACKAY** said that he looked upon it that the country did not require the canal now, although they might some years hence. He understood that all the members from Nova Scotia and all those from New Brunswick were not in favour of the construction of the canal. Why, therefore, he would ask the Government, should they undertake such a large expenditure for opening up a canal which a very large proportion of the people of interest did not ask for? He did not believe the tolls which would be collected would nearly pay the working expenses of it, besides which there were such obstructions to navigation in the Bay of Fundy that he thought it was very undesirable to construct the Canal at the present time. He thought the money proposed to be expended on it could be more profitably spent in improving harbours, building breakwaters, and constructing railways. (*Hear, hear.*)

The item was then concurred in.

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### MILITARY COLLEGE

**Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria)**, in rising to move the House into Committee on certain proposed resolutions for the establishment of a Military College in one of the garrison towns of Canada, said that the object of the Government was to have a military institution very much the same as that at West Point or the Military schools of England. An institution of this sort would, of course, be new to Canada, and must be commenced on a small scale, and with a limited number of cadets.

It was proposed that at first two cadets should be admitted from each Military District, so that the total number would not exceed in the first year more than twenty-two or twenty-four. The officers would be, at first, a commandant, two professors, and such other officers as would be necessary to carry on the College on the scale indicated. It was proposed to admit the cadets between the ages of 16 and 21, and to continue their course of instruction four years. At the expiration of every year the same number would be admitted at the commencement, and a certain number would be prepared to leave. It was not to be supposed that all who entered the school would continue to receive instruction during the full time. Some would be found to be fit to instruct the other cadets, and some

might become discouraged and ask permission to leave the school. The number he had mentioned would be kept up, however, and the Government hoped that the institution would be one which would make its mark in the history of the country and produce great and beneficial results.

It was proposed that everything connected with military education, whether in the branch of artillery or in those of cavalry, engineering, and infantry, should be taught in this school, as well as such other subjects as would be necessary to qualify cadets for all the duties which they would be required to perform in connection with their profession.

Some thought that it was desirable to establish the institution near the City of Ottawa, where it would be under the supervision and direction of the Government, and open to the inspection of members of Parliament; but, for several reasons, it was not desirable that this view should be entertained, and it was the intention of Government to prepare such buildings as they now have at their disposal in some one of the garrison towns of the country, and there locate the College.

It was impossible to say at the onset what the expense of this new institution was going to be. Of course, the salary of the Professors and of the Commandant must be known and stated. A certain amount would be placed to the credit of the cadets, and out of this they would have to live according to military rule and system. It was supposed that the expense for the first year would be about \$8,000.

Correspondence he had received from all parts of the Dominion stated that there would be no inducement held out to young men to attend this institution, because there would be no use, after they had left it, for the education they had received. If they looked at the history of the United States, however, they would find that the men who had been educated at West Point had occupied very prominent positions in different parts of the Union, and been connected with different industries of the country. Some of them had attained high positions as engineers; some of them had distinguished themselves in one branch of education, some in another; some of them even turned clergymen after they finished their education at College, and therefore the Church, as well as the State, might receive benefit from the institution which this Government proposed to establish. (*Hear, hear.*) In this country they found that a great many of our officers who had come out from England were getting to be old men, and some of our cadets might look forward to occupying the positions in the Imperial army formerly occupied by these men. Some of these young men might also wish to distinguish themselves in Parliament. Some of them might, in future, fill the office which he (Hon. Mr. Ross) now did, and some of them might occupy the position now held by the Hon. the Minister of Public Works. (*Hear, hear.*)

He would not now go fully into the details of the scheme, because he would take the opportunity of explaining the Bill when it came before the House. He was happy to say that the large amount of correspondence he had received showed that this new West Point, as he might call it, had become very popular already.