

deceased), January 19, 1907 J. S. Thom, (vice H. Kennedy, resigned), August 31, 1907.

REPAIRS TO DUFFERIN TERRACE.
INQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY inquired of the government :

Does the government intend to cause the works of repair of Dufferin Terrace and of the lands which serve to support the said terrace, which works are going on at present, to be completed before the celebration of the Third Tercentenary of Quebec?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Orders have been given to expedite the repairs to the walls. It is expected that this will be done sufficiently early to enable the corporation to complete the terrace before the celebration.

LEASED GOVERNMENT LANDS IN
THE CITY OF QUEBEC.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY moved :

That an order of this House do issue for the production of the correspondence exchanged, since 1896, between the government, or the military authorities, and the person or persons who asked for and obtained the lease of the land belonging to the government and contained in the land comprised between des Callières street, Mount Carmel street, Haldimand street, and St. Louis street, in Quebec.

The motion was agreed to.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Bill (ZZ) An Act to amend the Manitoba Grain Act.—(Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright.)

THE MILITIA AT QUEBEC.

INQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Before the orders of the day are proceeded with, I would ask the leader of the government if he has any supplementary answer to give respecting the calling of the militia in Quebec. I directed the attention of the hon. minister yesterday to the fact and he said he would get supplementary information for us to-day.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—That question was put to the Minister of Militia in the other chamber and answered.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—It was put in the other chamber, but the Prime Minister said in the absence of the Minister of Militia he could not give a reply.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I noticed in the 'Hansard' of yesterday that Sir Frederick Borden made the following statement :

Hon. Sir FREDERICK BORDEN (Minister of Militia and Defence). It is not correct to say that the troops are not going to the tercentenary. It is a fact, however, that the annual camps of instruction will be held as usual throughout the Dominion this year, instead of being held at one common point at or near the city of Quebec, as was proposed. The annual drill of the city regiments will also take place as usual this year. The reason of the change in the programme, which programme I announced briefly to the House three or four weeks ago, is chiefly due to the difficulty of transportation. It will be understood, I am sure, that one of the principal things to keep in mind in connection with this tercentenary celebration is to bring together the largest number possible of people to Quebec to witness the ceremonies. Some time ago the chairman of the commission called my attention to the fact that the transportation lines, the railways and steamboats, must be left free as far as possible to bring the people to Quebec and take them home again, and he thought it proper to ask the Militia department to agree not to move any troops on a certain number of days before the celebration began and a certain number of days afterwards. It will be readily understood that such an arrangement would hamper the railway transportation lines very much. An earnest effort was made to see whether the difficulty could be overcome, but it was found it could only be partially overcome. It was therefore thought better that the camps should be held at the usual places of holding camps. As to the statement that has been made that the headquarters of the militia were unable to cope with the mobilization of 25,000 or 30,000 troops at a central point like Quebec, the story is absolutely without foundation, and is entirely absurd. The Militia department is quite able to mobilize 40,000 troops at a central point like Quebec, within a few days, if not within a few hours, if the necessity arose. But at a time when tens and hundreds of thousands of people from all over the northern part of this continent will be looking towards Quebec, and have got to be taken there over the railways and steamboat lines, every one will agree that a serious problem is presented; and owing to the fact that the companies cannot give the necessary accommodation such as we think the militia should have, this part of the programme has been given up. As to what will be done to bring troops to Quebec to take part in the celebration, I am not prepared at this moment to take any announcement. But the Militia department will be prepared to co-operate with the commission in every way in its power.

He adds, however, that a considerable force would assemble, those who are most available. I have forgotten the number now, but he said that a considerable force would be assembled at Quebec, though not as large as was originally intended, owing to the difficulty of obtaining transportation.