

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr Huntington brought up his motion, of which he had given notice. It is as follows: "A member of this House having stated in his place that he is credibly informed, and that he believes that he can establish by satisfactory evidence: That in anticipation of the legislation of last session as to the Pacific Railway, an agreement was made between Sir Hugh Allan, acting for himself and certain other Canadian promoters, and Sir G. W. McMillan, acting for certain United States capitalists, who, by the latter, agreed to furnish all the funds necessary for the construction of the contemplated railway, and to give the former a certain percentage of interest in consideration of their influence and position—the scheme agreed on being embodied in a Canadian Company, with Sir Hugh Allan at its head; that the Government were aware that negotiations were pending between those parties; that subsequently an understanding was come to between the Government and Sir Hugh Allan and Mr. Abbott that Sir Hugh Allan and his friends should advance a large sum of money for the purpose of aiding the election of Ministers and their supporters at next general election, and that he and his friends should receive the contract for the construction of the Railway and that accordingly Sir Hugh Allan did advance a large sum of money for the purpose mentioned, and at the solicitation and under the pressing instances of Ministers; that part of the moneys expended by Sir Hugh Allan in connection with the obtaining the Act of Incorporation and charter were paid to him by the said United States capitalists under their agreement with him—it is ordered that a committee of seven members be appointed to enquire into all the circumstances connected with the negotiations for the construction of the Pacific Railway, with the legislation of last session on the subject, and with the granting of the charter to Sir Hugh Allan and others; with power to send for persons, papers, and records, with instruction to report in full the evidence taken before and all proceedings of said Committee."

The vote was taken, singularly, without a debate, the Government evidently feeling that they could meet the charge in no other way than with the unresisting force of a majority. On the division, the vote stood 76 yeas to 107 nays. Mr. Tobin asked the Government if any information had been received of the occurrence of a calamitous shipwreck off the Halifax harbour and said that he had some days ago given notice of enquiry why a light ship had not been placed at the point where the disaster had occurred as had been intended by the estimates of last year. He had reason to believe that had the light ship been placed there this accident could not have occurred.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell read telegrams received by his department giving the particulars of the shipwreck, and explained how the Government had failed in having this dangerous locality properly guarded. Mr. Tobin repeated his impression that had the precaution which the Government should have taken not been neglected, the world would have been spared this heart-rending calamity. On motion of Mr. Mills, the House went into Committee on the Bill to abolish Dual Representation.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill without amendment. The report was received, and the Bill fixed for the third reading. Mr. Mills moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Act to compel members of the Local Legislature in any Province where Dual Representation is not allowed, to resign their seats before becoming candidates in the Dominion Parliament, and to make further provision in case of the election of disqualified candidates. Carried.

PACIFIC RAILWAY. April 3. Sir John Macdonald—I wish to give notice that I will, on Tuesday next, ask the House to appoint a Special Committee of five, to be selected by the House, for the purpose of considering the subject mentioned in the motion of the hon. member for Sheffield yesterday. (Cheers from the Government benches.) The Committee can be drawn by the House and need not be a special power to sit during recess, and if need be a Royal Commission for the purpose of giving it additional powers.

LAKE GUNBOATS. Mr. Horton asked whether the Government intended keeping the gunboats in commission on Lake Ontario, Erie, and Huron during the coming season of navigation. Sir John Macdonald said one, the Prince Alfred, would be kept in commission, and the other, the Rescue, would be sold. Mr. Bodwell moved for the correspondence between the Government of the Dominion and that of the United States on the subject of reciprocal trade. Hon. Mr. Tilley said no correspondence had taken place between the Government of the United States and the Dominion Government on this subject since the adoption of the Washington Treaty.

LOCAL REPRESENTATION. On motion of Mr. Mills the Bill to render members of the Legislative Councils and Legislative Assemblies of the Provinces now included or which may hereafter be included within the Dominion of Canada ineligible for sitting or voting in the House of Commons, was read a third time and passed. A lengthy discussion followed upon Mr. Tremblay's motion for the second reading of his Bill.

Mr. Tobin—On Monday next—Enquiry of the Ministry whether the Government intend to introduce any measure for establishing a uniform rate of interest throughout the Dominion. Mr. Blake—On Monday next—Resolution:—That, in the opinion of this House, returning officers should not be appointed on the recommendations of the Ministerial candidates. Mr. Mackenzie—On Monday next—Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolution:—"That it is expedient to provide that no person having a pecuniary interest in the contract with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company shall be eligible to be elected a member of this House."

Mr. Mills—On Monday next—The following resolution:—"That it is inconsistent with the dignity of this House that any of its members should be retained as counsel in any proceedings which relate to any election petition, or to any proceedings had under the law for the trial of controverted elections, before any member or committee of this House."

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE IN HILKINGTON. The Executors of the Estate of the late Patrick O'Brien offer for sale a valuable farm of 100 acres, on Lot 14, 1st con. Pilsbry. The farm is situated about half way between Elora and Guelph. 90 acres are cleared, and in a good state of cultivation. There are a frame house, a barn and barn on the premises; also a good orchard. For particulars, apply to Patrick Nesbitt or John Murphy, Executors, Guelph, P. O. 0616-wit

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