

months will be of any service to you, I will take the responsibility of asking for the leave of absence from His Excellency without your making any application." So it stood over for a day, and then I received a communication from him stating that what he could not properly ask for he could not properly accept; so I said: "That being your feeling, I have no more to say." The resignation was accepted. The office has not been filled, but it will be filled ere long. There is no political agreement of any kind. There have been, perhaps, conflicting claims of individual judges who may think, each on his own behalf, that he should have the preference. However, we do not hear of any delay in justice, or any impediment to justice. No complaints have reached the Government in consequence of the non-appointment of the Chief Justice. In his absence the senior judge is practically the Chief Justice. I agree, however, with the hon. gentleman that the office should be filled, and it will be filled ere long.

Mr. BLAKE. I must say that I do not think the explanation of the hon. gentleman is at all satisfactory. I am not able to speak from personal knowledge of what the exigencies of the court may be, but I know the exigencies of a court in my own Province under a similar state of things, and I can quite understand the inconvenience which must be caused by the absence of the chief judge where he has the management of a court of twenty-eight judges, as my hon. friend has said. There are difficulties in reference to the disposition of business, which is often left in the hands of the Chief Justice, and it is of much more consequence in point of the want of judicial strength with reference to the working of the whole court than it could be in reference to the much smaller divisions of the High Court of Ontario. I can only express the regret that the Government did not feel the same sense of duty towards the public that the hon. gentleman has explained the late Chief Justice felt. He said that, after having a leave of nine months, and a vacation of nearly three, it was due to the public that he should not retain the office on an extended leave which left it practically empty when it ought to be filled. He declined to accept a further leave because he felt that the office ought to be filled. The hon. gentleman said, "I have no more to say." He acceded, as he must accede, to the view of the Chief Justice, but the Chief Justice might just as well have had the leave, because the office has not been filled, and, as far as the public business, of which he was so tender, is concerned, there has been no improvement consequent upon his resignation. The hon. gentleman speaks of filling the office "ere long" and so forth, but I remember that he spoke of filling another office "ere long"—the office of Minister of Railways.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Is that a previous debate?

Mr. BLAKE. No, it was a question on which no debate was allowed, and consequently it could not be a previous debate. He said that he would fill that office "ere long." My opinion is that in that case it ought to have been one delayed. We have heard that in this matter there is an aspirant for this office, or an office that might be vacated when it is filled, from the centre of Quebec, from the very middle of the city; and that difficulties connected with a subject which was before the House this afternoon have been amongst those which have caused this long delay, to the detriment of the administration of justice, though perhaps to the advantage of the hon. gentleman.

Motion agreed to.

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA.

Mr. BLAKE moved for:

Copies of all correspondence relative to any payments, claims or allowances on any account whatever in respect to the office of High Commissioner not already brought down;

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

And separate statement in detail, with dates and sums, of all payments made on any such accounts in respect to the office during its tenure by the present incumbent;

An estimate in detail of all sums payable on any such accounts up to this date and yet unpaid;

Also, copies of all correspondence not yet brought down as to the letting or purchase of a residence for the High Commissioner, and as to the repairs and furnishing thereof, with copies of all accounts in connection with the same;

A statement in detail of all sums paid in respect of such letting or purchase or furnishing or repairs;

And an estimate of all sums payable, but not yet paid, in respect thereof.

He said: This motion is practically the same as one carried last Session. It will be in the recollection of the House that sums in round numbers, of about \$28,000 for a residence, and about \$12,000 for furnishing the same, were voted for the High Commissioner. I see by the Public Accounts that the sum of \$41,000 has actually been paid on those accounts. There was also brought down last Session correspondence between the High Commissioner and the gentleman whom he employed in London to negotiate with reference to the purchase or rent of a residence; also, as to the furniture, with the inventory of the same. It would be satisfactory to get further statements which will indicate the completion of the transaction.

Motion agreed to.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—ALLOWANCES TO CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS.

Mr. BLAKE moved for:

Copies of all correspondence, reports and Orders in Council not covered by the previous Address relating to the allowances proposed to be paid to the Canadian manufacturers of certain goods required by the Canadian Pacific Railway; of all applications for such allowances, and correspondence in connection therewith; a statement of the calculations on which the allowances have been based, and an estimate in detail of the probable sums payable out of the Treasury in respect of each class of goods, assuming them to be made in Canada, to the extent of the company's requirements, and of the *ad valorem* percentages of all allowances on each such class.

He said: This is largely a repetition of motions formerly made. A resolution passed three years ago permitted us to ask separately for these matters which the House unanimously agreed should be brought down ten days from the opening of the Session. These are on other lines, which experience has demonstrated were not covered by that resolution.

Motion agreed to.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—ROUTE.

Mr. BLAKE moved for:

A statement of the various matters required to be returned under "The Consolidated Railway Act, 1879," and amendments thereto.

For the fiscal year 1883-84, in each case, separately, as to,—

1. The line of railway specifically provided for by the contract of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

2. The branches and extensions already acquired or controlled by the company.

Like statements with like particulars, separately, as to,—

1. The Eastern Division, and (2) the Western Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Statement of the total sum expended up to the 30th June, 1884, by the company under their contract,—

1. For work of construction on the line to be built by the company as particularly specified in the contract.

2. For rolling stock for the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway as particularly specified in the contract.

3. For works of construction on extensions and branches and lines controlled by the Company, not embraced in the Railway particularly specified in the contract.

4. For rolling stock for all extensions and branches not so embraced.

Like Statements to those hereinbefore mentioned, up to the 31st December, 1884.

Statement of the receipts of the company up to the 30th June, 1884, on account of:—

(1.) Cash subsidy.

(2.) Land Grant Bonds.

(3.) Bonuses.