

DOMINION LANDS ACT.

Mr. DALY introduced Bill (No. 116) further to amend the Dominion Lands Act.

Mr. EDGAR. Explain.

Mr. DALY. This Bill is similar to an Act that passed last session in regard to certain school lands that were occupied by squatters prior to 1st January, 1880. It was thought when the legislation was introduced last session that we had succeeded in dealing with all the claims; but since that date representations have been made to this Government, and also to the Government of Manitoba, that certain other persons whose names are mentioned had occupied school lands prior to 1st January, 1880; and this legislation is on the line of the legislation introduced and passed last session. It is introduced with the concurrence of the local government of Manitoba, and it is proposed to give to these people entry to these lands on proving to the satisfaction of the agents of the Dominion lands that they had performed homestead duties prior to 1st January, 1880, so as to entitle them to homestead entry, the Government substituting other lands for the same, so as to make up the necessary quantity for the school lands.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

COST OF RETURNS.

Mr. TAYLOR asked, What have the returns asked for by the members of this House from the different departments cost for making said returns, giving name of each member asking for said return during the years 1891-92-93-94 and 1895?

Mr. FOSTER. I desire to say to my hon. friend that it is impossible to answer that question in anything like brief form, and in order to answer it some search and accounting will be required. If the hon. gen-

tleman will move an address and thus secure the return, the information will be furnished, because the Government possess most of the information, though, perhaps, not all.

SAVING BANKS DEPOSITS.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT asked, 1. What is the total amount of the deposits in the several classes of savings banks operated by Government under \$500, and the number of such depositors? 2. What is the total amount of such deposits between \$500 and \$1,000 each, and the number of such depositors? 3. What is the total amount of such deposits on sums above \$1,000, and the number of such depositors?

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I shall, in answer to that question, submit the information I have received from the department. The answers to the above questions, so far as they relate to the Post Office Savings Bank, will require the examination and re-arrangement into three distinct classes of the balances at the credit of 120,000 depositors' accounts, and to do that, at this season of the year, with an office staff provided for current daily work, will necessarily involve considerable delay. It may be possible to give the required figures before the close of the present session, and a special effort will be made to do so. I think that if the hon. gentleman would kindly put it in the shape of a return, it would be more convenient to bring down.

Mr. LAURIER. Will the return ever be brought down?

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I think so.

Mr. FOSTER. I think I can answer half the question. I will give the hon. gentleman the information he asks for, with reference to the Government savings banks, and that will be an instalment which may satisfy him. The following is the statement:—

Provinces.	No. of Accounts.	Amounts under \$500.		No. of Accounts.	Amounts under \$1,000.		No. of Accounts.	Amounts over \$1,000.	
		\$	cts.		\$	cts.		\$	cts.
Nova Scotia	19,568	2,830,239	81	2,336	1,725,218	00	1,809	2,604,729	00
New Brunswick	12,996	2,299,254	32	2,094	1,506,400	00	1,778	2,554,652	00
Ontario	1,242	180,696	51	127	82,550	00	157	290,000	00
Manitoba	3,377	157,549	77	271	185,350	00	206	358,340	00
British Columbia	2,719	94,391	95	209	137,790	78	292	486,882	00
Prince Edward Island...	5,218	726,961	52	917	522,778	00	499	1,032,977	00
	44,420	1,289,093	88	6,654	4,160,086	78	4,741	7,327,580	00

Total accounts, 55,815; amount, \$17,776,760.66.

Mr. EDGAR.