

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. From what date?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. From the date of the passing of the Act.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

#### THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Whether the report on the Chinese question, signed by the Secretary of State and laid on the Table, is correct in stating that on the 12th August last, at Victoria, British Columbia, in his address at the opening of the Commission he used the following language:—"I have only to add that it is the intention of the Government to bring in legislation next Session."

Mr. CHAPLEAU. It is correct.

#### CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—GRADES AND CURVES.

Mr. BLAKE asked, What is the number of grades on the Canadian Pacific Railway exceeding 90 feet to the mile, and the aggregate length of such grades? What is the number of curves on the Canadian Pacific Railway of each degree over 6 degrees?

Mr. POPE. The answer to these questions require a good many figures, but I have answers to both, and I propose to accommodate my hon. friend so long as he keeps good natured. As to the number of grades exceeding 90 feet per mile, there are nine descending the Rockies; two ascending the Selkirks; twenty-four descending the Selkirks—an aggregate of fifty-two miles. As to the number of curves, there is one of 6°15'; 2 of 6°20'; 23 of 6°30'; 12 of 6°40'; one of 6°45'; 103 of 7°; 10 of 7°20'; one of 7°45'; 325 of 8°—

Mr. MILLS. Hear, hear.

Mr. POPE. No, not here; out yonder. One of 8°15'; 3 of 8°30'; one of 8°40'; 62 of 9°; 141 of 10°, and one of 10°40'.

Mr. BLAKE. You do not give the number of curves on the temporary line?

Mr. POPE. I have given all under six.

Mr. BLAKE. But not on the temporary line, because there was one there of 11.30.

Mr. POPE. I cannot say as to that.

#### CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—GOVERNMENT SECTION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. BLAKE asked, Whether the Government section of the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia is being worked for freight and passenger traffic, by the contractor for construction? Whether such working is by arrangement with the Government? Whether any tariff of tolls and charges has been agreed on between the Government and the contractor? Whether the Government has a copy of the tariff in use?

Mr. POPE. The contractor—as I believe all contractors do—is working the road for his own purposes as a contractor. I am told that he also carries any goods or passengers that come in his way, and I believe that is the case. There is no arrangement with the Government. No tariff of tolls or charges has been agreed upon between the Government and the contractor, and of course the Government has not a copy of any tariff.

#### TRADE RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant) asked, Whether the Government has taken steps towards developing trade relations between Canada and Mexico?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. No official communications passed between the Government of Canada and the Government of Mexico.

#### ACQUIREMENT OF INDIAN TITLES.

Mr. MILLS asked, What is the nature of the title which the Government claims to have acquired from the Indians within the Province of Ontario, north and west of Lake Superior, beyond the Height of Land? Does the Government claim the fee in the land on account of their treaty with the Indians? Does the Government deny any title in the Crown or Province prior to the treaty with the Indians? Does the Government claim the timber upon the lands, the mines and minerals in virtue of the treaty made with the Indians? Does the Government claim to have a lien upon the lands for the sums paid or agreed to be paid to the Indians? Or does it claim the ownership of the soil?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The Dominion has acquired, for money or money's worth, the rights to the Indian titles in considerable portions of country north and west of Lake Superior from the Indians. The Government claims to hold whatever rights the Indians had, neither more nor less. What those rights may be it is not for the Government to say, but for the tribunals to decide.

Mr. MILLS. The hon. gentleman has not answered my question. He has not stated what is the nature of the titles which the Government actually claim.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They claim whatever rights the Indians had.

Mr. MILLS. Well, what is that?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That is for the courts to say.

Mr. MILLS. The courts cannot say if the Government do not say in the first instance.

#### ST. CROIX COTTON MILLS—PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Mr. EDGAR asked, Have all the Customs Duties upon machinery, plant, and other material imported by or for the St. Croix Cotton Mills of Milltown, St. Stephen's, New Brunswick, been paid to the Government, if not how much is still unpaid?

Mr. BOWELL. The whole amount of the duty payable upon the machinery imported for the St. Croix Cotton Mills, of Milltown, St. Stephens, N.B., has not yet all been paid. There is a balance of between \$15,000 and \$20,000 still due; I do not know the exact amount. Arrangements have been made for the liquidation of the debt.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). How is that?

Mr. BOWELL. Give notice.

Mr. EDGAR. The hon. gentleman refers to the machinery

Mr. BOWELL. I refer to the whole. I read the question and said upon the machinery, plant, and everything that is dutiable.

#### GRATUITY TO CHARLES HUNTER TERRY.

Mr. McMULLEN asked, At what date was the Order in Council passed granting a gratuity of \$600, or eight months pay, to Charles Hunter Terry, lately employed in the Finance Department?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. C. H. Terry was retired by Order in Council on the 20th of May, 1884.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. At which date the gratuity was granted?