

would not be justified to sell at private sale any portion of it to the Government; and he knew perfectly well there was a public law on the statute book which required that when in such cases land was required by the Government it must be expropriated; and he relied upon this alone. In that very paper would be found the testimony of a man who could not be accused of partiality in his (Mr. JETTE's) favor, because he, having purchased lots to an extent he did not immediately realize when he became a purchaser, decided afterwards to make every effort to get out of the bargain if it was possible. That gentleman had afterwards instituted an action against him (Mr. JETTE) and his associates to have the sale cancelled, and that gentleman alleged exactly what he (Mr. JETTE) had stated, that there was no understanding between the proprietors and the Government, and it was on this very ground he asked for the sale to be cancelled. The allegations of the plaintiff were these:—

“That before the said auction sale, or since, the said Defendants never arranged, directly or indirectly, with the Government of Canada, concerning the enlargement of the Lachine Canal, on the side of the said property, and through the said reserve, as aforesaid, or otherwise.

“That in fact, said Government has not yet adopted any plan concerning the enlargement of said Canal, and has not decided as to the enlargement of said Canal, or the construction of a new canal at a distance from the actual one

“That the said reserve was not made with a view of providing for the widening of the said Canal, the said Defendants having no understanding whatever with the said Government for the purposes aforesaid, or any purpose whatever connected with the said Canal, or its enlargement.”

This was the best answer that could be given by the best witness, because he was the witness most interested against him (Mr. JETTE.)

Mr. KIRKPATRICK was satisfied the House would be gratified by the full and frank statement made by the hon. member for Montreal East. He wished, however, the hon. member, and the House, to understand that he made no charge against the hon. member. He had never seen the paper referred to, and did not know that such charges had been published. He observed by the report of Mr. PAGE that the owners of the lands had put them up

to a very high price. He assured the House that it was not with a view to making charges against the hon. member that he brought forward this motion, and if the papers were brought down they would show no doubt that the hon. member was justified in what he had done.

The motion was carried.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The House again went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Act for the regulation of the Postal Service: Mr. JETTE in the chair.

The 91st clause was amended by adding the following:—“Except only in so far as they relate to the rates of postage on newspapers and periodicals sent to the United States as to which they shall come into force on the first May now next.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL stated that he did not intend to move the adoption of free postage on newspapers, of which he had given notice, because, although he was satisfied that such a scheme would be in accordance with the general sentiment of the House, it would be useless to move an amendment to that effect when the Government had announced that they would oppose it.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

SICK AND DISTRESSED MARINERS.

Hon. Mr. SMITH moved the reception of the report of the Committee of the Whole on the resolutions to amend the Act 31 Viet., Cap. 64, respecting the treatment and relief of sick and distressed mariners.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL said he hoped the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries would alter the resolutions so as to place steamers on the same footing as sailing vessels.

Hon. Mr. SMITH—They are.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL—Not exactly. The tax was required to be paid three times a year, and the hon. gentleman had stated that sailing vessels landed only about twice a year, therefore only paid twice a year, while steamers landed much oftener.

Hon. Mr. SMITH said steamers landed on our shores a much larger number of sick and distressed mariners than did sailing vessels.

Mr. Jette.