

PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. DREW moved that the time for presenting petitions for Private Bills, be extended to Wednesday, the 15th day of March next.

Motion agreed to.

MILLS AND FACTORIES COMMISSION.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY presented to the House the Report of the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the working of Mills and Factories of the Dominion, and the labor employed therein.

THE ESTIMATES.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY delivered a Message from His Excellency the Governor General;

Mr. SPEAKER read the Message as follows:—

LORNE,

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons, Estimates of sums required for the Dominion, for the year ending 30th June, 1883; and in accordance with the provisions of "The British North America Act, 1867," he recommends these Estimates to the House of Commons.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

OTTAWA, 21st February, 1882.

Ordered that the said Message and Estimates be referred to the Committee of Supply.—(Sir Leonard Tilley.)

Sir LEONARD TILLEY stated that the Supplementary Estimates for the current year would be submitted on Thursday next.

THE CENSUS.

Mr. POPE (Compton) presented to the House the Report of the Minister of Agriculture, in relation to the Census Taking, also Manual, containing "The Census Act," and the instructions to officers employed in the taking of the Second Census of Canada, 1881.

SUPPLY.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It has been the custom, though not required by the rules of Parliament, to take a vote before we go into Committee of Ways and Means, and as we have followed this practice since 1874, I desire to move one vote, the second resolution.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

2. Governor General's Secretary's office. \$11,200

Resolution ordered to be reported.

House resumed.

DRAWBACKS ON GOODS MANUFACTURED FOR EXPORT.

Mr. PATERSON (South Brant) moved for a return of all claims presented for drawbacks on goods manufactured for export since January 22nd, 1881, showing the names of all applicants, their place of business, the articles on which the drawback was claimed and the amount of each claim, distinguishing between the claims which have been allowed and those which have been disallowed and those under consideration and not yet decided, and giving the reason for such disallowance; also copies of all regulations made by the Department with reference to such claims. He said: In introducing this motion, I think it well to bring before the House certain facts which are to be learned from the Trade Returns which have been placed in our hands by the hon. the Minister of Customs. It will be in the recollection of the House, I dare say, that last

Mr. PATERSON (Brant.)

year I made a motion similar to this. I move this year in the same direction, because the evil I complained of at that time has not been remedied, and the evil results, in a measure, flowing from the want of that remedy being applied has gone on and has been increased and intensified. The Commissioner of Customs, in making his reports to the Minister, says:

"That he has the honor to lay before him returns which will be found, on examination, to present many features of a highly encouraging nature to all parties interested in the commercial prosperity of the Dominion.

"The first item worthy of special notice is the increase of the export trade. The highest figure reached in this department of commerce since 1868, was in 1873, when the total exports were valued at \$89,789,922, but in the last year, 1881, the amount of the same, as shown in these returns, is \$98,290,823, being an increase over 1873 of \$8,500,901; and over 1880 of \$10,379,365. This increase is wholly in the trade with Great Britain, and is principally composed of Canadian produce and manufactures."

I have looked, Mr. Speaker, into this statement in the light of the figures furnished by the Minister himself, and I have been totally unable to verify the statement there made, either in regard to the increase being wholly in the trade with Great Britain, or in regard to the other fact stated that the increase is principally composed of the produce and manufactures of this country. Now, Sir, with respect to the first item, which does not concern my question so much, but to which it is well to allude, because it shows hon. members that we may not receive with implicit confidence the deductions made by the Commissioner, that is if my figures are correct. I find, with respect to the total increase in the export trade having taken place wholly with Great Britain, these facts: I find we exported to the United States of the products of the fisheries this year, \$2,241,585; that last year, 1880, we only exported to the United States \$1,738,870, or in other words an increase of \$502,715. The products of the forest we exported to the United States, in 1881, to the value of \$8,349,844; in 1880, only \$6,352,418, or an increase of \$1,817,426. In agricultural products we exported to the United States, in 1881, \$10,631,374 worth; in 1880, \$8,086,795, or \$2,544,579 more in 1881 than in 1880. In manufactured goods we exported to the United States, in 1881, \$1,310,557, and in 1880, \$1,283,342, or \$27,215 more in 1881 than in 1880. Putting these four items together, we find that our export trade with the United States increased in 1881 over 1880, \$4,891,935. Yet the Commissioner tells us and the hon. Minister of Customs, by receiving that report and dedicating it to His Excellency, has told us and the country that the total increase of ten million dollars odd of our exports in 1881 over those of 1880 has taken place wholly in our trade with Great Britain. We contest the accuracy of that statement by another table which the hon. gentleman has given us. In 1881, the total exports of the products of Canada—and that is what really concerns us; we are not concerned in what is merely passing through—

Mr. McCALLUM. Yes, we are.

Mr. PATERSON. If you take it on that basis you will find that the statement of the hon. Minister is equally not borne out by the facts. But I did not work up that table, because it is not pertinent to the question. What we are interested in is what we produce. Taking that table, we find that, in 1881, the total exports of the products of Canada to Great Britain were \$42,637,219, and, in 1880, \$35,208,031; an increase in 1881 over 1880 of \$7,479,188. Yet the hon. Minister says the whole ten million dollars odd of increase in products exported is due to our trade with Great Britain. In 1881, the total exports of the products of Canada to the United States were \$31,015,109; in 1880, \$26,762,705, or an increase of \$4,252,404 in 1881 over 1880; still the hon. Minister tells us, through the Commissioners' report, that this increase, in 1881 over 1880, of \$10,739,365, lies wholly in our trade with Great Britain. Not that it is