

**FREE TRANSPORT**

**Mr. HIGINBOTHAM** enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to provide greater facilities for the transport of emigrants from Canada to the Northwest, so as to give effect to the resolution adopted unanimously by the Select Committee on Immigration and Colonization appointed by the House of Commons during the session of 1873, and declaring that in the opinion of the Committee free passages should be given from Quebec to Fort Garry to indigent immigrants from Europe and the United States desirous of settling in the Northwest, as well as to indigent inhabitants of any Province of the Dominion desirous of settling in Manitoba.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said the Government were providing all the facilities possible, but they could not undertake to provide a free passage to Manitoba. The expense would be too great. They would give all the facilities in their power, however, and with one particular class, that is the Mennonites, there was something amounting to a contract which had to be observed by the Government.

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**TELEGRAPH LINES**

**Mr. ROSS (Durham East)** enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to take the telegraph lines into their own hands as England and other foreign countries have done, and if so, when?

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said such was not the intention of the Government.

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**VOLUNTEER DRILL**

**Mr. HIGINBOTHAM** enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to form brigade camps during the present season, or whether the annual drill will take place at the headquarters of the respective battalions or companies.

**Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria):** The matter is engaging the attention of the Government. (*Hear, Hear.*)

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**INFORMATION FOR IMMIGRANTS**

**Mr. DELORME** enquired whether it is the intention of the Government, for the diffusion of knowledge of all that pertains to this country, to add to all that has been published heretofore, also a list of most of the articles considered as necessaries of life, mechanics' tools, horticultural and agricultural instruments, seeds, etc., with the trade prices of all these articles, so that intending immigrants from Europe may be more satisfied.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said the Government were publishing everything they thought desirable or necessary, in order to give correct information for the guidance of intending emigrants in England. If anything else could be suggested by the hon. gentleman, the Government would be very glad to publish it; but, so far as they could judge everything had been done in order to accomplish what the hon. gentleman desired.

**THE RAILWAY AT ST. JOHN**

**Mr. DOMVILLE** enquired whether it is the intention of the Government to extend the Government railway from Shediac to St. John down to the ballast wharf at St. John; whether any portion of such work has been commenced; if so, whether such work is suspended; and if so, the reason for such suspension; and when they expect the connection to deep water at the ballast wharf will be completed.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** said the extension of that railway to the places mentioned depended upon circumstances yet to be developed. He might say, however, that unless the City Council consented to do something more than they had as yet shown a disposition to do, it was not likely the extension would take place. The work was not suspended up to the barrack ground. It would be completed up to that point in all probability, so that the accommodation necessary for shipyards would be ensured, and shunting tracks ground provided.

The reason for the suspension was, as he had stated, the apparent disposition of the City Council to exact terms to which the Government could not agree. The accommodation, he considered, would not be sufficient to justify the Government in expending such a large sum of money. It had also been considered that it was quite possible a mistake was made in endeavouring to reach deep water at that point, instead of running the track to deep water between Rankin Wharf and Navy Island. The Government were prepared to bridge the Harbour at that point, if other railway companies would bear their share of the expense.

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**THE BARRACK GROUND, CHATHAM**

**Mr. STEPHENSON** moved for correspondence relating to Government property in the Town of Chatham, known as the Barrack Ground. It had been considered that this ground should be reserved for Military purposes; but he had recently been told that the Government had sold a portion of it, and that the military shed which was to have been erected was to be abandoned. The people of Chatham believed that if the land was to be sold they should have the option of the purchase of it for a public park.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** had no objection to the motion. The only correspondence which had occurred was with regard to a small corner lot, which had been sold to the County Council for \$1,180.

In reply to Mr. Stephenson, he said he was not aware that any protest had been sent in to the Government. If there had been, it should be brought down.

**Right Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD** called the attention of the Premier to the fact that at the time the Ordnance Lands were conveyed by the Imperial Government to the Government of Canada they were arranged to be divided into two classes, one class to be required for purposes of defence and the other sold, at not less than its value, for the purpose of supporting the militia or military force in Canada in accordance with Col. Jervis' report.