

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I must answer the hon. member's question in the same terms as I answered the enquiry of the hon. member for Essex (Mr. Patterson).

ESTATES OF INSOLVENT DEBTORS.

Mr. HOUDE, for Mr. GAULT, enquired, Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill this Session to provide for the equal division of the estates of insolvent debtors?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is not the intention of the Government to introduce such a Bill.

IMPORTATIONS INTO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. DECOSMOS enquired, What is the total value of merchandise imported into British Columbia from the other Provinces of the Dominion, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1881? 2. What is the total amount imported by sea from Montreal, or other eastern ports, into British Columbia, during the last fiscal year? 3. What amount was imported in the same period into that Province by overland route *via* San Francisco? 4. How much of the merchandise so imported was domestic, and how much foreign?

Mr. BOWELL. There are no returns in the Department affording such information, but I have telegraphed to the Collectors to ascertain whether they can supply it.

CONTRACTS ON THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Mr. DECOSMOS enquired, What was the total value of the work performed up to December 31st last, by Onderdonk & Company, contractors, on the Emory-Savona contracts of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as estimated by Government engineers? 2. What is the total amount that had been paid thereon to the contractor up to that date? 3. How much of these railway contracts was then completed? 4. How many tons of rails were there then at Emory, including what may have been used in construction? 5. How many tons of rails are now on the way to Emory, and how many tons for Port Moody?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I beg leave to say, in answer to the hon. gentleman, that the total value of work done, as estimated by the engineers, on the contract referred to, is \$1,804,824; that the amount of money paid is \$1,624,300; that no part of the work is entirely completed, but that rails are laid for about twelve miles, and the work is in progress all along the line. The number of tons of rails at Emory, including those laid on the track, is 5,077. There are now on the way to Emory's Bar 1,490 tons; there are no rails on the way to Port Moody.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Mr. HOUDE enquired, Whether the report of the Civil Service Commission is signed by all the members of that Commission; and if not, whether the report of the minority will be presented to the House with that of the majority?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The report is not unanimous. The minority report will be brought down.

PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex) moved for a return showing the amount paid for printing, by order of the Government, to any person or persons other than the contractor for parliamentary printing, the persons or firms to which such money was paid, and the nature of work done or the name of the document printed. He said: I wish to say, in connection with this resolution, that I made a motion somewhat similar

last Session, to which no answer has yet been made. I would like an answer to this motion at as early a date as possible. I find, on looking over the list of last Session, that to as many as seventy-seven motions for returns adopted by this House, no answers were given. I trust this will not be one of the unfortunate motions to be cast into the waste basket.

Motion agreed to.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved that a Special Committee of seven Members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by the House on Thursday the 9th instant, and that Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Leonard Tilley, Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Hector Langevin, Messrs. Blake, Mackenzie and Laurier do compose the said Committee.

Motion agreed to.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. BLAKE. I desire to say that I propose, to-morrow, to ask the hon. gentleman to make the usual explanations as to Ministerial changes. I think, if twenty-four hours were sufficient to make all the changes, twenty-four hours ought to be sufficient to make the explanations.

MOTIONS FOR RETURNS.

The following motions for Returns were severally agreed to:—

Papers and correspondence, not heretofore laid before this House, in connection with the Northern and Western Boundary of Ontario.—(Mr. Plumb.)

Return of all Provincial Acts passed by the Local Legislatures of the several Provinces of the Dominion and disallowed by the Government of the Dominion, since 1st July, 1867, with the reasons for such disallowance set forth in full; also, of all Provincial Acts which, though not disallowed, have been amended in conformity with the request of the Dominion Government, with the reasons for such amendments set forth in full; also, of all Provincial Acts which although not disallowed have been declared *ultra vires* by Her Majesty's Privy Council or by any court of competent jurisdiction.—(Mr. Patterson, Essex.)

Copy of all regulations and departmental orders respecting the arrears due to the Government on the sale of land in Manitoba, Keewatin, and the North-West Territories, and the prompt payment of such arrears, according to the terms of sale, and of all instructions to, and correspondence with, the Crown Land Agents respecting the same.—(Mr. Cameron, Huron.)

Return of all correspondence with the Government by any party or parties or companies respecting the grazing or pasture lands in the North-West Territories, all applications made for such lands, all correspondence and applications respecting the claims of squatters or parties claiming rights of any kind in and to such lands; all grants, leases or other rights given to any one thereof, the terms and conditions thereof, showing to whom and when such grants, leases or other rights were so granted or given.—(Mr. Cameron, Huron.)

Return showing the number of licenses to cut timber on the Government lands in Manitoba, Keewatin, and the North-West Territories granted by the Government, or applied for, from the acquisition of the country until the 1st day of February, 1882, the name of the licensee, the date of the license, the limit or quantity of land granted, the terms on which granted, including the annual rent, the stumpage reserved, time which license was to continue, the