

election law, that the right to vote for members of the House of Commons may be extended to a larger proportion of the people than now enjoy it, and be uniform throughout the Dominion?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That subject is under the consideration of the Government in connection with a measure we will be obliged to bring down, in accordance with the British North America Act, after the Census taken last year.

SALARIES OF RURAL POSTMASTERS.

Mr. WHEELER enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government, during the present year, to increase the salaries of postmasters outside of towns and cities, in accordance with the increased revenue of the Department?

Mr. O'CONNOR. By far the greater number of postmasters outside the towns and cities are paid by a percentage on the amount which they collect, and, of course, as that amount increases from the increase of business, their salaries will be augmented in proportion.

CANADIAN TOBACCO.

Mr. VANASSE enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to cause to be prepared some elementary treatises on the growing and preparation of Tobacco, and to have them distributed gratuitously throughout the country.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The Department of the Interior will consider the matter.

REPORT OF THE FACTORY COMMISSION.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT enquired, When the report of the Factory Commission, promised in the Speech from the Throne, will be brought down?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It has been put in type for the use of hon. members, and I hope to submit it next Monday or Tuesday.

EMIGRANTS TO CANADA.

Mr. BLAKE moved for a statement of the number of emigrants booked and sent to Canada by the agents of each of the steamship lines, and of the number booked and sent by the agents of the Ontario Government, or any other Provincial Government, during the last fiscal year.

Mr. POPE (Compton). I may say to my hon. friend that it will be impossible for me to get the number booked by each of the steamship lines, though I can give him the number in the aggregate. As the hon. gentleman probably knows, that no agents of the Ontario Government, or any other Government, book these emigrants, they are only booked by the licensed agents of the steamship lines. The total number remaining in Canada of those so booked can be ascertained.

Mr. BLAKE. That will answer my purpose.

Motion agreed to.

GOODS IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION.

Mr. BURPEE (St. John) moved for a summary statement, similar to No. 2 in the Trade and Navigation Returns, of the goods imported for consumption dutiable and free in the Dominion of Canada, the amount of duty collected, and the rates of duty levied thereon, during the six months ending the 31st of December, 1881. Also a similar statement to No. 5 in the Trade and Navigation Returns, of the goods, the produce and manufacture of Canada, exported from the Dominion of Canada, for the six months ending 31st December, 1881.

Mr. COSTIGAN.

Mr. BOWELL. I have no objection to the motion, except the time and labor involved in preparing it, as I have explained to the hon. gentleman. If these returns are to be asked for every Session, in addition to those which have already been asked for by the hon. member for Centre Huron (Sir Richard J. Cartwright), they simply amount to a duplication of the Trade and Navigation Returns for every six months in the year, less those tables required for the registration of shipping. I shall see that as much as possible of the information sought for is brought down, and at as early a day as possible.

Mr. BURPEE. I think I should be able to reduce considerably the labor involved by keeping out some of the particulars asked for.

Motion agreed to.

THE PROPOSED MANITOBA AND HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT, in moving for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Canada and any other parties, in reference to the proposed railway from Manitoba to Hudson's Bay, said: I am aware that a number of gentlemen of some prominence in Canada, have had the construction of this railway under serious consideration. There are supposed to be very serious difficulties in the way of navigating Hudson's Bay. In the first place, the grain transported by that route would not be the grain of the current season, but of the season preceding; and, in the next place, vessels of different construction from those ordinarily employed would probably be required for a navigation which must be encumbered by a considerable quantity of ice. But my main reason for calling the attention of the Government to the matter, is this: I am inclined to think this subject has been brought to the notice of some shipowners in England, and I would suggest to the Government the expediency of urging the English Government to cause some of their squadron to be employed next year in ascertaining what length of time navigation remains open. If, as is asserted by some, that navigation is practicable for four months in the year, or thereabouts, this matter may be of considerable moment to the inhabitants of Manitoba; but if, on the other hand, it is practicable for only two months or six weeks, as some supposed-to-be-authorities assert, then it appears to me it would be an idle waste of money to construct this railway. As the matter is one of interest to English shipowners as well as to the people of Canada, I would suggest to the Government the desirability of having a thorough exploration in the way I suggest.

Motion agreed to.

SHIPPING DISASTERS ON INLAND WATERS.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT, in moving for copies of all correspondence between the Government of Canada and any other parties, in reference to loss of vessels on our inland waters, in consequence of over-loading or shifting of cargoes, said: There have been, as the House is aware, some serious disasters on our inland waters, resulting in the total loss of the crews in some cases, and under circumstances which have led the public to believe that very gross carelessness was exercised in the loading of those vessels. This is a matter to which attention has been directed in England and elsewhere by Mr. Plimsoll and other persons who take an interest in these matters, and I would call the attention of the acting Minister of Marine to the desirability of seeing whether some regulations cannot be adopted, to secure greater safety to life and property on our inland waters. Unfortunately, in cases in which vessels are heavily insured, there is too much reason to believe that the owners are very careless as