

to \$9,300. The five months aggregate \$48,744, to feed 2,220 Bloods.

Mr. FARROW. That is not very much.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I am not talking about whether it is much or not; I am giving the figures. I say it is much, but that is not all. Not only did they get beef, but they got bacon and other supplies. I am not blaming the First Minister, but I say the system is not a good one. These vouchers are all certified to by the farm instructors. It is an unsafe thing to leave the furnishing of such an enormous quantity of supplies to the destitute Indians to be certified to by the farm instructors, and the farm instructors alone. There is no real check, except the check furnished by the honesty of these men. I find, at the same time, while on the 31st July we were supplying the Indians with beef, at 13½ cents a pound we bought for them 12,438 pounds of bacon, at 23 cents a pound. I may say to the hon. gentlemen that there is no voucher at all for one month of the last six months of 1883. The hon. gentleman knows that the Indians object very decidedly to the use of pork, and I cannot see what interest the Government can have in giving the Indians a thing they do not want, and paying double the price for it. The Indians say that by supplying them with this bacon or pork, they become diseased. Pie-a-Pot complained that a large number of his band, from being compelled to use this pork, bought at 23 cents a pound, became unhealthy, and many died from the effects.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That was a lie of Pie-a-Pot.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). Can the hon. gentleman explain why we should give these Indians pork at 23 cents a pound, when we could supply them with beef at 13½ cents a pound. The same thing occurs with respect to the Blackfoot Indians. They are estimated to number something over 2,000. In some reports and for some months the bands are estimated at 2,000; for other months the number is down to 1,200 and 1,600. For the last six months of 1883, according to the vouchers in the Department, we supplied them with fresh beef to the extent of \$56,168; and during the same time we purchased pork for them at 23 cents a pound. There is another thing to which I wish to direct the First Minister's attention. In voucher 837, 31st of January, 1884, with respect to the Blackfeet, they obtained, according to the voucher, on that day, 22,250 pounds of beef, at 14½ cents. The voucher contains an entry to the following effect: Destitute Indians, Blackfoot Crossing, average daily rations, 871; and upon the same date, 31st January, 1884, by voucher 836, that same band got 26,560 pounds of beef, at 14½ cents, \$3,785; and the following entry is on the voucher: Destitute Indians at Blackfoot Crossing, average daily rations, 1,290,—the one voucher signed by J. E. Edward the other by J. E. Macdonald, farm instructors. Why should there be, on the same day, to the same Indians, two different accounts for fresh beef? In the month of February precisely the same thing happened. Voucher 840, 29th of February, 1883, these Blackfeet at the Crossing obtained 16,727 pounds of beef, at 14½ cents, \$2,383.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Perhaps the hon. gentleman had better let this item pass, as it is close on Sunday.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I think not. I am perfectly convinced, from the hon. gentleman's own reports, that the grossest possible frauds are perpetrated by the middlemen. Perhaps the hon. gentleman will allow this item to stand, as it is an item which requires some discussion.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. All right.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I want to call his attention to the statements in his own reports. I do not know that he

has read all these reports, and it is of the first possible consequence that his attention should be drawn to them. I have two different vouchers upon the same day of the same month to the very same band of Indians.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No; they are divided into two bands.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). I will refer the hon. gentleman to the month of February. I find one voucher, No. 840—that is the number on the outside of the voucher, in pencil mark—and I find that there is an account, dated the 29th February, 1883, for 16,727 pounds of beef to the Blackfeet at the Blackfoot Crossing; and on the same day there is another voucher for 26,956 pounds of beef to the same identical band of Indians at the Blackfoot Crossing. It may be, as the hon. gentleman says, that this band of Indians has been divided into two, and the supplies have been given to them by two different agents. If that is so, it only happens with regard to those two months, because, during the whole of 1883 the supplies are certified by one official, and generally by the farm instructor; but in January and February, 1883, there are two sets of vouchers, certified to by two different individuals. I do not know what the explanation is, but I think it is a matter that requires some explanation.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is nearly twelve o'clock.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). Then let the item stand.

Mr. BOWELL. The First Minister said he would let it stand several times. He said so fifteen minutes ago.

Mr. CAMERON. He did not say so fifty times.

Mr. BOWELL. I said he said so fifteen minutes ago.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). If the First Minister said so, I did not hear him, or I would have stopped at once. I apologise to the First Minister for going on, but I did not hear him.

Committee rose and reported progress.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and the House adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, 13th July, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at half-past One o'clock.

PRAYERS.

TEMPERANCE ACT, 1878.

Mr McCRAVEY asked, Is it the intention of the Government to ask Parliament to legislate during the present Session so as to provide for the proper enforcement of the Temperance Act, 1878, by furnishing the necessary funds for the prosecution of persons violating the provisions of said Act?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It would be impossible, I think, at this stage of the Session to legislate on this subject.

BONDED MACHINERY IN USE.

Mr. McMULLEN, asked, Whether there is any mill or manufacturing machinery that has been imported into Canada and put in mills or manufacturing establishments and still held in bond by the Government? If so, the names of the mill or mills in which the machinery is, the date of its importation and the several amounts due for duty, and how long due?