

THE LANGEVIN BLOCK—CONTRACTOR'S CLAIMS.

Mr. CHOQUETTE (for Mr. Lemieux) asked :

1. Whether Mr. Charlebois, the builder of the Langevin Block, has still claims pending before the Government?

2. If so, what is the amount and nature of said claims?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (Mr. Tarte). 1. Yes. 2. The total amount claimed by Charlebois is \$296,338.05, being made up as follows :—

Claim on account of contract proper.....	\$252,593 57
Claim on account of iron roof	15,813 99
Claim on account of iron stairs	3,854 58
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Making a total of.....	\$272,262 14
In addition to that sum, Mr. Charlebois further claims that a deduction of	22,113 64
should not have been made from his contract when the estimates were rendered, and if to that is also added a sum of.....	1,962 27
amount still to the credit of Mr. Charlebois by the department, the total amount of his claim is.....	\$296,338 05

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

Mr. HUGHES asked :

1. What changes in the general administration of the Royal Military College, which Major General Gascoigne, its president, officially stated, on the 14th August, 1896, were to be immediately effected, have been carried out?

2. What are "the great and many advantageous changes" in the college administration referred to by Lieutenant-Colonel Kitson, commandant, in his speech to the Royal Military College ex-Cadet Club in the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, on 27th February, 1897, as "soon to take place"?

3. What other changes in the college administration are contemplated?

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE (Sir Richard Cartwright). 1. No changes in the general administration of the Royal Military College have been recently carried out. 2 and 3. The report of the Commandant of the Royal Military College on the subject referred to in this question is now under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. HUGHES. I draw the hon. gentleman's attention to the fact that he has not answered the first part of the question.

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE. It is answered by the reply that I have made, that the report of the Commandant is now being considered by the Government.

Mr. TARTE.

CAPTAIN OF DREDGE "PRINCE EDWARD."

Mr. MARTIN asked :

1. Was there any charge of offensive partisanship preferred against Captain John N. McDonald in dismissing him as captain of the dredge "Prince Edward," in Prince Edward Island?

2. Was any question raised as to his ability and faithfulness in the discharge of his duty?

3. What was the ostensible reason for his removal?

4. Is it the intention of the department to appoint a successor, or is it intended to have Captain McDonald reinstated?

5. Was Captain McDonald's case inquired into by Mr. Palmer, the investigating commissioner?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (Mr. Tarte). 1. No official complaint has been lodged in the department. 2. No. 3. The reason for his removal was that his services could not be utilized in the winter months, the dredge not being in commission. 4. It has not yet been decided whether or not Captain McDonald shall be re-engaged, the dredge "Prince Edward" not being yet in commission. 5. Mr. Palmer has not been instructed to make any inquiry into Captain McDonald's case.

WOOD ISLAND HARBOUR DREDGING.

Mr. MARTIN asked :

Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the dredging of Wood Island Harbour and Murray River, Prince Edward Island, during the coming summer?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (Mr. Tarte). The question is under consideration.

MANITOBA SCHOOLS QUESTION.

Mr. HAGGART asked :

Have the Government any intention, as a sequence of the recent arrangements between themselves and the Government of Manitoba, to rescind the Remedial Order made by the Governor General in Council on the 21st March, 1895, and formally communicated to the Government of Manitoba with the object as set forth in said order, of restoring to the Roman Catholic minority of the province the rights and privileges of which the said minority have been deprived with respect to education, or do the Government propose any parliamentary action in relation to the said matter?

He said : If there is any controversy as to what is the effect of the Order in Council, I will put the question by leaving out the words :

Of restoring to the Roman Catholic minority of the province the rights and privileges of which the said minority have been deprived with respect to education.

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). The policy of the Government upon this question has already been announced, and