

did not intend to say that this was not the case; but he would see about it, and inform the hon. gentleman at once of the facts. This could hardly be called a survey. Mr. Bell travelled over the country rather to find out whether there was a certainty, or a reasonable certainty, of obtaining a favourable line, and his recollection was, that Mr. Bell reported on this after having traversed this country, that a favourable line could be got, striking the main line, if his recollection was correct, about 25 miles from Thunder Bay. However, the map could be easily produced.

Motion agreed to.

LA BANQUE NATIONALE.

MOTION FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. ROCHESTER moved for copies of all correspondence between the Government or the Minister of Justice, or the creditors of one Oliver Latour, or any of them, or any persons on their behalf, in relation to the alleged forfeiture of its charter by La Banque Nationale, by reason of its illegally trading in lumber, and in the manufacture and sale of square timber and saw logs, and the produce thereof, and in other goods, chattels and merchandize, in violation of the Banking Act, to the prejudice of other banking institutions, the lumber trade and the said creditors. Also, for copies of all contracts, depositions and statements and writings submitted to the Government, or the Minister of Justice, evidencing said (illegal) trading, and also copies of the opinion of the ex-Minister of Justice and the present Minister of Justice thereon, and of all Orders in Council having reference to said illegal act of said bank. And also for copies of the registered timber trade mark of the said bank, as registered in the office of the Minister of Agriculture, and of all papers and documents in said office relating thereto. And also copies of all the correspondence between the said bank, or any of its officers, and the Government, or any member thereof, with reference to said alleged violation and forfeiting of its charter by said bank.

MR. LAFLAMME said that the only paper which could be produced, and

that was in the Department, was an application on the part of counsel acting on behalf of certain parties for a writ of *scieri facias*, and the answer of the Department to this application. There was no other correspondence. No correspondence whatever, in this regard, had taken place with the late Minister of Justice. It had all occurred while he held this position.

MR. ROCHESTER said that he moved for these papers, in order to place before the House clear and indisputable evidence that La Banque Nationale had been and was trading as lumber merchants, in violation of its charter, contrary to public policy, and to the prejudice of the lumber trade. This was a Dominion Bank incorporated by Parliament, under the Dominion Banking Act which prohibited the bank from engaging directly or indirectly in any trade or business except the business of banking, and, as a member of this House, he charged La Banque Nationale with owing and working timber limits, making square timber and saw-logs, and manufacturing sawed lumber therefrom, and with selling the same in the public market. It had used a registered timber trade mark, and had been, and was actually, engaged in lumbering generally, and this had been the case for a long period. As public rights and interests were involved, and as this trading was against the public policy of the Dominion, in violation of the Banking Act, and to the prejudice of the lumber trade, he submitted that an enquiry was necessary; and if, on such enquiry being made, these facts could be established, as he asserted could be done, then he held that this bank had forfeited its charter, and that this House should so declare. He had in his possession papers which he thought would satisfy any reasonable man in this House that such was the case, and which he would read. These papers, he felt, would satisfy every member of the House, that the charge and statement which he had made, were fully borne out by the facts. The following document was a copy of one of the contracts of this bank with an individual who operated for it; this would show how

MR. MACKENZIE.