

year for the purpose of prosecuting the work already begun for the improvement of the navigation of the Chenal Ecarté at its confluence with Lake St. Clair?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—It is not the intention of the Government to touch that channel this year.

INLAND REVENUE.

Mr. BECHARD—Is it the intention of the Government to have published in French the book intituled "Laws and Orders in Council affecting the Inland Revenue of Canada, 1875," which the Department of Inland Revenue has just published?

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—Yes.

THE SUPREME COURT.

Hon. Mr. BLANCHET moved for a return of the number of suits instituted before the Supreme Court, and of the number of judgments recorded.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said the Supreme Court was one of appeal, and suits were not instituted there, but brought from other Courts. The Government had no power to ascertain what decisions had been rendered, but he would take steps to communicate with the officers of the Court, and obtain a return, which he had reason to believe would not be voluminous.

The motion was carried.

THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

Mr. OLIVER moved for a statement of loss to the Post Office Department by the sending of certain papers and documents free of postage during the last Session of the Ontario and Quebec Legislatures.

Hon. Mr. HUNTINGTON said the Post Office Department was not in a position to give the information desired. It was provided by the Post Office Act that certain documents and other matters mentioned therein might be sent free of postage. There had been no record kept, and therefore no return could be furnished. The motion of the hon. gentleman, however, would place the Government in such a position as to be able to furnish the information next year.

Mr. STEPHENSON.

Mr. OLIVER said he was confident this information would be acceptable to the House and country if it could be furnished in the future.

The motion was dropped.

GLACE BAY HARBOUR MASTER.

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) moved for a return of moneys paid to Mr. Henry Mitchell, Harbour Master of the Port of Glace Bay, in Cape Breton. Mr. McDonald said it was claimed that this harbour was private property. The appointment was very unpopular and altogether unnecessary in the public interest. The appointment was not asked for by any one interested in the matter, and he understood a few months after it was made the official was asked to resign. The impression at the place was that the appointment was made for the political services of the official. He (Mr. McDonald) wished to see the correspondence to ascertain whether such was the case or not, and that the public might know the facts.

Hon. Mr. SMITH said he was not aware that this gentleman was a friend of the Government. He (Mr. Smith) could furnish the information off hand if it would satisfy his hon. friend, but was quite willing to bring down the papers if he desired it.

Mr. MACKAY (Cape Breton) thought the hon. gentleman was a little astray in supposing that the harbour is private property. If the hon. gentleman took the trouble to look into the subject he would find that under the rules and regulations of the Government of Nova Scotia, the Governor in Council before Confederation had power to make the appointment. The same power that then was given to the Governor in Council was now vested in the Marine and Fisheries Department. There was another reason why the appointment of harbour master at the Port of Glace Bay was necessary, and that was that the Dominion Act gave certain powers to the harbour master whereby he could compel obedience to any orders he gave in connection with the safety of the harbour. This harbour being located almost immediately on the Atlantic ocean, required a good deal of supervision to prevent masters of vessels from throwing ballast or