

Sault Ste. Marie on the 10th December, 1883. 9. The original entries and invoices accompanying same cannot now be found on file in the Department of Customs, and it cannot be gathered from the record in said department whether the invoices were returned or not. Original entries are destroyed after the lapse of three years.

#### PREVENTIVE OFFICER AT ORWELL, P.E.I.

Mr. MARTIN asked :

1. Has a sub-collector of customs or a preventive officer been appointed for Orwell (Brush Wharf), in Prince Edward Island?

2. Is it the intention of the Government to appoint a sub-collector or preventive officer for Orwell (Brush Wharf), if they have not already done so?

3. If not, is the office at Orwell to be closed, and for what reason?

The CONTROLLER OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). An acting preventive officer has been appointed at Orwell, P.E.I.

#### TENDERS FOR INDIAN SUPPLIES.

Mr. DAVIN asked :

Will the Minister of the Interior lay on the Table copies of the schedule calling for tenders for Indian supplies in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories for the fiscal years 1896-97 and 1897-98?

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). Yes, here are the tenders.

#### TENDERS FOR DEPARTMENTAL BUILDING.

Mr. MONK asked :

Did the Government call for tenders for the temporary roof of the departmental building at Ottawa recently destroyed by fire? If not, why not?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (Mr. Tarte). It was imperative, in order to allow the works of repair inside the building to be proceeded with, to build a temporary roof without any delay—that did not permit of the calling for public tenders. The Minister ordered his chief architect to prepare an estimate of the cost of such temporary roof, which that officer placed at \$4,500, and Mr. Bourque, an experienced contractor, was asked whether he would be prepared to do the work for the amount of the estimate made by the chief architect. Mr. Bourque consented to do so, the work was awarded to him, and was completed by him to the complete satisfaction of the department. The rapid execution of the work entrusted to Mr. Bourque has allowed the work of repairs to be pushed with such despatch that the Department of Public Works is now into its old quarters and the Department of Marine and Fisheries will be able in a few days to move also, and thereby a

saving of a considerable sum, paid for the rent of the temporary quarters occupied by both these departments, will be effected.

#### WORKS ON THE RICHELIEU RIVER.

Mr. MONK asked :

1. Has the Government called for tenders for works on the Richelieu River at Belœil, near the Grand Trunk Railroad bridge? If not, why not?

2. What amount has the Government spent on the above works between the 1st of August, 1896, and the 1st November, 1897?

3. What is the Government estimate of the total cost of these works?

4. Who is the local overseer of these works? What was his occupation previous to his nomination? What was the date of his appointment? How much a day does the overseer receive?

5. Did the Government call for tenders in connection with the timber required for said works? How were tenders called? Who were the tenderers? To whom was the contract awarded and at what price?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS (Mr. Tarte). 1. Yes, tenders were called for on the 14th November, 1894, but the contractor found it impossible to go on with the work and his contract was cancelled by Order in Council of the 25th March, 1896. 2. Nothing. 3. \$6,000. 4. Mr. Avila Bernard. The department was aware that Mr. Bernard was a capable and experienced man. Mr. Bernard was appointed on the 1st February last. His salary was \$2 per day, which is 50 cents less than salary previously paid for similar service. 5. The department did call for tenders for the timber, procuring quotations from different timber merchants. The persons from whom quotations were asked are the following:—Filion & Barnes, E. H. Lemay, J. C. Robert, Shearer & Brown, Jacques Bourden, Thomas Mitchell, J. & B. Grier, Louis Boucet, A. P. McLaurin, the Bronson & Weston Company, Wm. Mason & Sons, J. T. Marchand & Company, A. D. Cameron, E. Mignault, and P. Prefontaine. The contract was first awarded to A. B. Cameron of Buckingham, who subsequently failed to deliver the timber, and the order was given to Mr. Pierre Prefontaine, of St. Hilaire, at the following prices:—Square hemlock, 12 x 12, 19 cents per lineal ft. Hemlock, flatted to 10 in., 14 cents per lineal ft. Rock elm, \$34 per thousand. Hemlock deals, \$11 per thousand. Hemlock spars, 5 cents per lineal ft.

#### MR. HUGH O'LEARY.

Mr. HUGHES asked :

1. Was Mr. Hugh O'Leary, of Lindsay, Ont., employed by the present Government to inquire into the conduct of the agent to the Indians in Rama township, in the county of Ontario?

2. If so, in what capacity?

3. What were the charges against the Indian agent?

4. What was the result of the investigation?

5. What was the cost of the investigation?