

was a matter beyond my control, but the treasury has been leaking ; in some way the contractors and others have wasted, swindled and taken away millions of the public money, and if this had not taken place it would not have been necessary to come before the people and admit we have a deficit. I will enumerate to the House some of the instances showing how the treasury has been robbed of millions. The Government have thrown away on Tupper's "Dear Onderdonk," \$1,118,000 ; on the Tay Canal, familiarly known as "Haggart's Ditch," \$476,000 ; on the Caraquet Railway, \$224,000 ; on Little Rapids Lock—a useless work which has no traffic and yields no revenue, \$124,000 ; on the Galops Rapids Channel, which shipping men will not use, because of its danger, \$600,000 ; dredging Wet Basin—contrary to terms of contract, \$22,500 ; allowed to be stolen in connection with the Quebec Harbour Commission, over \$1,000,000 ; in connection with the Lévis Graving Dock, \$139,000 ; the Cross Wall contract, \$92,000 ; Esquimalt Graving Dock, \$207,000—this being more than the amount of tender Curran Bridge, over \$270,000 ; paid to the "Hard Pan" claimants to which they had no legal right, \$272,000 ; Harris Land Job at St. John, \$100,000 ; Sheik's Island Dam, \$125,000 ; St. Mary's Bridge, Fredericton, principle and interest, \$372,000 ; Langevin Block, cost less than \$500,000 and for which over \$781,000 was paid—\$281,000, and there is an outstanding claim of about \$250,000 ; wasted, stolen or boodled on the St. Charles Branch of the Intercolonial Railway, \$1,500,000. Then there was the Liquor Commission, \$70,000, for the purpose of shirking and putting to one side the prohibition question.

Mr. LANDERKIN. \$125,000 last year.

Mr. McISAAC. Then there is the Labour Commission, which cost \$87,718 ; and for what ? That money was expended in order to find out whether the National Policy was good or bad. We have always been told by hon. gentlemen opposite that it is a great and glorious policy, and yet over \$87,000 were expended on the Commission to ascertain whether it was a good or bad policy. These items, not including the outstanding claim for Langevin Block, show an aggregate of over \$7,000,000 wasted, boodled or stolen. I have not given all or nearly all the items, but these will be sufficient for the present. I now desire to tell the House what a Minister of the Crown stated not many months ago. The Minister of Militia at Amherst, on 15th January, said :

We have heard a great deal of late about corruption in the Government, and he would like to say a word in this connection. There were three instances generally quoted, namely, the Curran bridge affair, the Caron scandal, and the liberation of Thomas McGreevy. Concerning the first, he said it was a clear case of steal.

Mr. McISAAC.

That is from a member of the Government, reported in his own organ.

The Government trusted a contractor who was a thief. To-day the Government is at work securing evidence, and besides punishing St. Louis for his theft, it has entered an action for the recovery of the money.

This language was used by a Minister of the Crown, and one of the last Ministers who has entered the Cabinet.

Mr. LANDERKIN. And the last of them that ever will.

Mr. McISAAC. It was stated by this Minister in his own constituency on nomination day. He told the people that the Curran bridge case was a clear steal, and that the contractor was a thief, and he claimed credit for the Government because they were trying to punish that contractor. A few days ago, we had the result of the St. Louis case in the court. Although a Minister of the Crown said he was a thief, and that it was a clear case of steal, yet that contractor has been discharged and found not guilty. Therefore, the thief is at large yet. Where is he ? and are the Government going to pursue him any further ? I have shown that over \$7,000,000 had been boodled, stolen and swindled. That amount would have wiped off the deficit for this year, and last year, and the anticipated deficit for next year. Would not the waste of this money have been a more truthful explanation to the people of the country of why we have had a deficit this year and last year, and expect to have another next year, than the explanation given by the Government ? The people of the country are now getting so used to the surfeit of scandals that they do not realize what a million of dollars is, because so many millions have been stolen. I propose, Sir, for a moment to illustrate the loss of this enormous amount of money to Canada, this enormous amount of \$7,000,000, so that the people will understand what it means. If this amount were divided among the seven provinces of this confederation, it would give each province \$1,000,000. If divided among the counties of this Dominion, it would give each county over \$32,000. I am going to be a little selfish, now, Sir. I want to illustrate what this \$7,000,000 would do for some of the maritime provinces. If it were applied to Prince Edward Island it would have built the great tunnel between that province and the mainland, and there would have been enough left to build the railway extensions required in the island. If it were applied to my own province of Nova Scotia, what would it have accomplished ? As you well know, Mr. Speaker, there are a great many districts in my province clamouring for railways, and I wish to show how many railways this money would have built if it were expended in