

cal Premier" wants Canada to clean out the river for the Americans!

What do the electors think of squandering our money on this stupendous folly?

VIOLATING THE STATUTE!

The Pacific Railway Act, Section 5, enacts that:

"A line of electric telegraph shall be constructed in advance of the said railway and branches, along their whole extent respectively, as soon as possible after the location of the line shall have been determined upon."

The plain intention of that Act is that the telegraph shall be constructed after the location of the line, so that the work of clearing, &c., done on it shall be so much towards the construction of the railway. But Mackenzie never allows even Acts of Parliament to stand in his way, and in October and November 1874, and February 1875, he let telegraph contracts for the whole line from Lake Superior to British Columbia, (Pacific Railway Report 1877, pp. 384, 385,) at a cost of about a million of dollars, (Hansard, March 5, 1875,) before the line was located! At that time, of the 430 miles from Lake Superior to Red River, only 160 miles had been located; a portion of the line had been located through the prairie region, but no location whatever had been made through the Rocky Mountains and westward! (Hansard, Mar. 5.) On April 2, 1875, Messrs. Bowell and Kirkpatrick moved regretting that telegraph contracts should be let contrary to statute, before the line was located. Blake could not sanction such a plain violation of statute, and shirked the vote, but Mackenzie with his less scrupulous followers voted it down! (Journals, p. 346.) A few days after voting this down (April 9,) Mackenzie telegraphed to F. J. Barnard, who had the contract in British Columbia, to stop work! But the contractor had already 50 miles almost completed, and large supplies on hand, and put in a bill of \$43,720 for expense he had been put to! (Sess. Paper 82, 1876.) Three years and a half after this contract was let, and two years and a half after it was to be completed, the location of the line through British Columbia was only being determined on, (Mackenzie's explanations, May 4, 1878,) but in the meantime, thousands have been squandered through the Premier's reckless violation of statute!

Electors, how do you like the Premier squandering your money in defiance of law?