

pute any thing wrong to the individual who had the expenditure of this money, who outside of his erroneous political proclivities was a worthy man, but he did find fault with the manner of expending public money adopted in the case in question. There was nothing to justify it. Apart from the appearance it presented of an attempt to make political capital by tampering with the poorer class of the electors, the money could have been much more judiciously and advantageously expended by tender and contract, when everyone would have a fair chance to compete for it. It was a dangerous thing to permit any departure in such a case from the tender and contract system. The friends of the present Government had boasted that they had secured the electors of L'Ardoise by the expenditure of the money on the breakwater. But he (Mr. Miller) knew that they had not secured the independent electors of that fine community, who were a large majority of its inhabitants, as the next general election would prove. His greatest complaint, however, against these gentlemen was that they had refused to the people of L'Ardoise and all others who resorted to that fishing ground, a suitable and commodious harbor for the carrying on of their avocations. It would have been only a small concession to that valuable industry—an industry that receives very little attention from Parliament, while less important subjects engross much of their time, and receive large appropriations from the public funds. He trusted the Government was not going to allow L'Ardoise breakwater to remain in its present unsafe and imperfect condition, and that they might be induced to act justly, if not generously, (on the eve of a general election) in relation to that and other similar subjects in the ill-treated Island of Cape Breton.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—As my hon. friend has not given me any proof that the Government have been guilty of what he has charged them with, I am not prepared to answer that portion of his remarks. I am under the impression the money was wisely and well expended. I am advised by the Public Works Department that there was in 1876 an unexpended balance of \$1,300 carried over, which was spent in 1877, the work being done by day's labor. I suppose in so small a way as one involving twelve or thirteen hundred

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dollars, it is much more economical and satisfactory to expend the money as was done in this case than to call for tenders. Of course, I cannot speak as to the character of the work, whether it was more suitable to be done by day's labor or by contract, but I assume the course was pursued by which the most was done with the money, and this is the first I have heard of any imputation against the Government that they used it for political purposes. If they had had any object of that kind in view, I should think it would have been better to hold the money over, because, as a rule, people are more grateful for favors they expect than for those they have received.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—I do not blame the Government so much as I do the friends of the Government.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I presume they are all friends of the Government down there.

The motion was carried.

The House adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Friday, Feb. 15th.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After Routine proceedings.

PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said that the time for receiving petitions for private bills expired to-day, and, as he understood that a number of petitions were on the way, he moved that the time for receiving them be extended to the 25th inst.

The motion was agreed to.

CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPH.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS moved—"That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General, praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before this House, copies of all specifications on which tenders were invited to construct the Lake Superior and Fort Garry sections of the Canadian Pacific Telegraph; also, copies of all correspondence between the