

Legislatures for the past quarter of a century, but unfortunately no Bill that has passed has ever received the Royal assent. He believed that the present measure was one that would be likely to receive the Royal assent, and that it was satisfactory to authors and publishers on both sides of the Atlantic. However, if the hon. member for North York knew of any difficulties in the way of its being accepted in England, he thought he should state them now.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said that it was almost too much to ask any member of the House to be prepared to make a lengthened speech after the labors of the last forty-eight hours. It would, perhaps, be better to defer the second reading of this measure; but if that was not done he thought that no further stage should be taken to-night and that another opportunity should be given for a full discussion.

Mr. DYMOND said he had only received the Bill after it finally passed the Senate this afternoon. It not merely opened the question of copyright, but also the right of the people of Canada to manage their own affairs. While he would be glad to see a measure passed that would be acceptable to authors and publishers in England, he felt that his first duty was to this country, and while he did not hope to effect any change in the Bill, he wished to have an opportunity of placing his views on record in order to further the discussion which he had the honor of raising in this House a year ago. To his mind it was very doubtful whether this Bill would receive the Royal assent.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE observed that perhaps upon the whole it would be desirable, as was proposed to have a discussion on that Bill, that it should take place on the second reading. For his part he not only had no objection to a discussion, but rather invited one, and as it would be preferable to have it on the second reading, he begged leave to withdraw his motion.

Motion withdrawn.

#### BAIE VERTE CANAL.

On the order for the further consideration of resolution 83 in the estimates—  
Baie Verte Canal, \$1,000,000,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government had considered the discussion

*Hon. J. H. Cameron.*

which took place on this resolution a few evenings ago, and he had promised that when it came up for concurrence, he would state what the Government proposed to do in relation to it. There was a manifest, and he was bound to say not unreasonable, hostility to the Government taking a vote of one million dollars for a work, the exact cost of which, and the extent to which they might be able to proceed this year, they were not able to state. He proposed now to reduce this amount to a mere nominal sum sufficient to enable them to proceed to make such further surveys as might be necessary to get the most complete information. They proposed to invite tenders and have an estimate prepared from them when the House met again, showing the cost of the work. They also proposed to take such steps as would secure as accurate information as possible of the value of the work in a commercial sense, so that they might be able to meet the House with some statistical information showing the real value of this work to the country at large. He was not insensible to the fact, or what might be supposed to be a fact, that local consideration might have had some influence, both with those opposed to and in favor of the scheme. He was not able himself from any information he had at hand to form any judgment as to what the real value of the work would be to Canada; but the Government would use all the means in their power to be able to present to the House next session an intelligent estimate of the commercial value of this work, its cost, and the means they thought should be taken when that was ascertained in order to complete the work or otherwise. He, therefore, moved that this item be not concurred in, but that it be reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$20,000.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he could not state that he was very much surprised at the announcement which had just been made by the Minister of Public Works, but he did think that the Government occupied a position that was very far from enviable in relation to this question. The First Minister knew that this great work was brought under the consideration of Parliament in connection with the whole canal policy, as proposed by the Canal Commission which was composed of the ablest engineers and the first commercial men in the country. That policy was sub-