

discussing some little more detail than we have here. What I want is something like this: In the last Estimates I myself brought down for 1878-79, the Department provided very tolerably full information about these, dividing them, as I see, into the several heads, and, although it is not necessary to cumber up the Estimates with a dozen pages giving the details of the number of lighthouse-keepers and so forth, I think that the one page was useful which contained something like the details the hon. gentleman proposes to give: for instance, how much was required for buoys and beacons, how much for repairing, maintaining and arranging lights and light-ships, how much for boats, how much for oil and so forth. I think that might be judiciously restored. It was the custom in former times to give all that information, and it is much more convenient to have it in a page in the Estimates than to have to look it up.

Mr. McLELAN. Difficulties may arise from dividing the estimates in that way. There may be an accident to a lighthouse, a fire or an undermining by the sea—that is an expense upon maintenance and repairs, and this may largely increase one of the sub-divisions and largely increase your appropriation for that, while in other points it may be less than you estimate for, and when you take a lump sum in this way, you are not tied down to any particular expenditure for any particular service, and it is unwise to do so, in view of the liability to accidents in matters of this kind. The sub-division we have is:

Chimneys, burners, reflectors, &c.	\$11,000 00
Oil.....	32,000 00
Coal, wood, water and freight	37,000 00
Oil tanks, tinware	3,000 00
Repairs, lumber, stone, cement, machinery, &c.	78,360 00
Lanterns, lamps, &c.	8,000 00
Powder	9,000 00
Signal stations.....	3,500 00
Repairs to dwellings, boat houses, wharves and sheds.....	34,000 00
Buoy service.....	36,000 00
Humane establishments.....	10,000 00
Paint, oil, glass, white lead, &c.....	10,000 00
Hardware, rope, rubber packing, &c.	6,000 00
Baize, chamois, flannel, polishing powder, &c.	4,500 00
Sundries.....	6,500 00
Total	\$288,860 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. But those are just the items that may be advantageously put in as in former years. I did not ask for the extreme sub-division that prevailed before when they were divided in that fashion in half a dozen sub-heads. But even if the hon. gentleman requires to take a pretty large allowance for contingencies, which can be easily put in, still it is desirable to have some more information than we have here.

Mr. McLELAN. We will take that into consideration.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It is not desirable that so large a vote as this should be taken and left entirely at the disposal of the Department in the way the hon. gentleman suggests.

152. Maintenance and repairs to lights, fog whistles, buoys and beacons, humane establishments and provisional depots....	\$288,860 00
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Mr. McLELAN. This sum covers all the lighthouses and the increased buoy service. Buoys are found necessary at additional points, and several new fog whistles have been added during the past year which are of expensive maintenance. The humane establishments are hospitals at the different points where we establish life-saving institutions.

Mr. WELDON. There ought to be a better fog alarm at the harbour of St. John. The bell-buoy is not at all sufficient for the purpose.

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Mr. McLELAN. Considerable repairs were made to that bell-buoy last season, and I understand it is now in a better condition.

Mr. PLATT. In the early part of the Session I asked the Government for information regarding a change in the direction of the range lights at Weller's Bay, and I was told it was not the intention to make any change. Since then I believe a petition has been received by the Department asking for a change in that harbour, and also asking that spar buoys be placed at the entrance in order to remedy the failure of the light to be in range with the channel.

Mr. McLELAN. That will all be enquired into as soon as possible by the proper officer of the Department. No decision is made in the office upon petitions or applications without enquiry by some competent officer of the Department. Whenever we receive a petition signed by so respectable a body of men as are the constituents of the hon. gentleman, it will be attended to.

153. Cape Race Light.....	\$1,300 00
154. Completion and Construction of Lighthouse and Fog Alarms.....	\$40,000 00

Mr. McLELAN. This is for building one or two fog alarms. I will give a complete list of items before Concurrence.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. We ought to have it now when we are asked to vote the money in Supply, because this is the proper time for discussion. Although it has been once or twice done as the hon. gentleman now proposes to do, it was done under protest by reason of some accidental failure in obtaining the information. We are asked for \$40,000, and the hon. gentleman does not state any details or places where he is going to spend it. We are not anxious to delay him, still we have a right to know how this money is being spent.

Mr. McLELAN. The sheet is not yet from the printers, but will be here before Concurrence, and will be distributed to the House.

Mr. MACDONALD (King's, P.E.I.) With this large vote of \$40,000, I think the Government ought to erect a fog alarm at East Point, in the Lower St. Lawrence, in answer to a numerously signed petition from the leading shipping merchants of Quebec, Halifax, Prince Edward Island, and other maritime ports. This is one of the most important places in the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, and more shipping passes this point to Prince Edward Island than at almost any other point on the Lower St. Lawrence. The importance of the situation would warrant the Government in giving due attention to this matter at an early date, and I trust they will take steps in that direction at once.

Mr. McLELAN. The hon. gentleman will find on the sheet when it comes before the House that provision is made for that.

Mr. BAKER (Victoria, B.C.) The hon. member for King's asks for a fog whistle at East Point—I suppose he means in Prince Edward Island. But there is another East Point in British Columbia, and representations have been made to the effect that one is very necessary there. Will the sum provide for the erection of a lighthouse on East Point?

Mr. McLELAN. There is some appropriation made for some new lights in the hon. gentleman's Province; I am not able to state just now where it is.

Mr. BAKER. We shall be informed on Concurrence, I suppose. That seems to be an excuse for almost everything—in fact I regard this Concurrence as a snare and delusion.