

Cumberland which was not exactly Parliamentary—that he considered it not beneath the dignity of his position to describe the hon. member as a reckless administrator, and that he had put a sum in the estimates ostensibly for the construction of this work, but really for the purpose of influencing two elections: The statement of the hon. member for Cumberland, that the work would have been under contract and making progress at this moment had the late Administration remained in power. His hon. friend the First Minister made another statement which was anything but Parliamentary—a statement which he felt sure was made in the heat of the discussion, and for which the hon. gentleman would himself feel sorry. He said that the member for Cumberland got up in his passionate style, in order to please a contemptible following, and made use of certain language and certain arguments. The hon. the First Minister had no right to be surprised at the inference drawn by the member for Cumberland, that the member for South Bruce was so strong in the estimation and affections of the House and had such an influence on public opinion, that although the Government asked a vote of a million dollars for this work, it required but an expression of his (Mr. BLAKE'S) opinion in order to convince them that they should confine themselves to a survey. The relations of the Premier and the hon. member for South Bruce reminded him of two characters in SHAKESPEARE'S plays, the one of whom said to the other—"Thou shalt be king, and I shall be viceroy over thee." His hon. friend the First Minister was the king; he sat upon the throne; but the hon. member for South Bruce was viceroy over him. In Japan they used to have two kings—the Tycoon and the Mikado. The Mikado was the heavenly King, and the Tycoon was the earthly king. The Mikado had all the honor; he was given the first place, and received the homage and worship of his subjects; but the Tycoon had all the power. Which was the Mikado and which the Tycoon—the Premier or the hon. member for South Bruce—he left to the House to decide. The Baie Verte Canal was not to be constructed after all. But they had the assurance of the Tycoon, if they only gave

up the Baie Verte Canal, whatever the Mikado might have said, there would be money got somewhere to spend among all the constituencies of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to make up for it. He agreed with the Ministry that this was a work of national importance, and that it ought to be, and must be finished, unless the powers above were too strong for them. He could only say, in conclusion, that he hoped his hon. friend would increase the vote to a little over \$20,000.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he was not conscious of having used any language that was not Parliamentary and if he did make use of any expression that could have given pain or offence to any one, he assured his hon. friend that it was very foreign to his intention. So far as the remarks of the hon. member affected the question before the House, he had simply to say that as a member of the late Government, he (Sir JOHN MACDONALD) must be aware that it was impossible they could have been prepared to place the work under contract. They had a walk over the ground by Mr. KEEFER and an estimate was made by him of the probable cost which every other engineer pronounced absurd and ridiculous. The engineers of the department agreed in this opinion no estimates could have been made until plans were prepared, and that would take months. Notwithstanding that the engineers had been unable to accomplish this—notwithstanding that he (Mr. MACKENZIE) had so far found it impossible, the hon. member asked the House to believe that if he and his Government had remained in office the canal would have been in progress of construction.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said he understood at the time that plans had been prepared, and was assured by the hon. the Minister of Public Works and by Mr. KEEFER that within a few weeks the working plans would be prepared, and the canal would be put up for contract. He repeated that tenders were about to be invited when the hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries sent an urgent telegram asking a postponement, and it was then arranged that the matter should be submitted to Mr. PAGE'S consideration.

Hon. Mr. SMITH said that his hon. friend from Cumberland knew very well that he (Mr. SMITH) requested that the terminus of the canal should be changed,