

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). A few figures in opposition to a statement are very valuable. The Secretary of State has taken very high ground and denied positively without furnishing any figures whatever. I have had left with me a statement by an hon. member which he had gathered with reference to the operation in his county. Whereas the municipal lists in one municipality were printed for \$30, under the Franchise Act they will cost \$60; in another municipality they cost \$30, under the Franchise Act, \$90.12; in another \$20, under the Franchise Act, \$72; in another \$25, under the Franchise Act, \$103; in another \$35, under the Franchise Act, \$120; in another \$20, under the Franchise Act, \$72.

Intercolonial Railway..... \$20,000 00

Mr. MITCHELL. With regard to this vote, I moved at an early stage of this Session for a return of papers connected with several claims, those of the Rev. Mr. Bannon, the late Senator Muirhead, the present Judge Wilkinson and a number of others, who had claims arising out of the contractors' claim on section 16. I wish to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to the fact that these claims have been referred to the Dominion Arbitrators for arbitration, and they have made a very favorable report, which I will not trouble the House with reading. I would ask the Minister when he will take up these claims with a view to having them arranged? I presume this vote is placed here for the purpose of meeting cases such as I have referred to.

Mr. POPE. I will take up the claims very soon, but as to whether this vote is for the purpose of meeting such claims as the hon. gentleman refers to, I do not know. It is put here for the purpose of paying persons who may be proved to have anything due to them. With respect to the claims the hon. gentleman mentions, I will enquire into them, and if they come under this vote, of course they will be dealt with.

Mr. MITCHELL. I wanted to know if this vote is applicable to these claims. A favorable report has already been made, and I hope the hon. gentleman will be able to meet those claims, which are just.

Mr. WELDON. I would mention to the Minister of Militia that there has been some difficulty about giving passes over the Intercolonial Railway to the riflemen who went to the rifle competition in the Maritime Provinces. I hope that such arrangements may be made as that these passes may be continued, otherwise the volunteers of the Maritime Provinces will certainly be deprived of meeting in competition.

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I can tell the hon. gentleman that this matter is now under consideration.

Trent River Navigation, &c..... \$160,000 00

Mr. BLAKE. What does this "&c." mean? In this connection the Minister promised to give us what information there was as to the estimated cost of the canal.

Mr. POPE. The "&c." means the unfinished work, and this is considered sufficient to complete. As to the rest, I shall have to apologise to the House, as the chief engineer has given me nothing that I can bring before the House, and I have no other information at present except what would be misleading, and could be of no advantage to the House. As soon as I can get the information I will bring it down.

Mr. BLAKE. I am very sorry that the information the hon. gentleman has in his archives on the subject of this canal, up to this time, would be misleading.

Mr. CAMERON (Middlesex).

Canals..... \$60,000 00

Mr. KIRK. I would ask the Minister of Railways and Canals if he took into consideration the petition and application made to him for a sum of money to repair the Whitehaven Canal in Guysboro' county. The people have been pressing it upon him for the last two years, and I am sorry the Minister has proposed no vote for that purpose. What is the reason he has not given some attention to that canal?

Mr. POPE. I really cannot, at this moment, give the hon. gentleman any information, but I will enquire into it, and on concurrence will be able to say whether there is anything.

Esquimalt Graving Dock..... \$250,000 00

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. This sum is to complete that work, to pay the contractors for the work finished, and the Imperial Government will repay the sum by the 1st of January.

Military Works in British Columbia..... \$25,000 00

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. This sum has been placed in the Estimates for the purpose of carrying out an understanding between the Imperial Government and the Canadian Government. Under this arrangement the Imperial Government undertake to provide all the armament, the guns, a system of marine torpedoes, &c., for the purpose of protecting the harbors of Victoria and Esquimalt, Canada undertaking to build the fortifications, which will be armed with guns sent out from England.

Mr. BLAKE. I am sorry this arrangement has not been laid on the Table of the House. What are the plans for the military works which the hon. gentleman proposes—I do not know whether this is to complete or whether it is a payment on account. If it is not to complete, what is the general character of the work, and what is the value of the contribution by the Imperial Government by way of armament, as compared with the proposed contribution by Canada?

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. The plans for the fortifications are not yet completed, and have not yet been received. The intention is to build earth works of as inexpensive a character as possible. The Imperial Government's contribution will be from £25,000 to £30,000 sterling, and the contribution of Canada, without being over positive as to the amount, which can only be ascertained exactly when the plans are ready, will reach between £15,000 and £20,000 sterling.

Mr. BLAKE. Will this scheme involve a permanently increased expenditure for a military fort to defend the works?

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. Last year and this year a sum has appeared in the Estimates for C School of Gunnery. That school will be on the same principle as A and B Batteries, and will take charge, to a very great extent, of these works. The intention is not to increase the expense by adding to the force, but to organise the militia in British Columbia as in other portions of the Dominion.

Mr. VAIL. I understand that an Imperial engineer is going to British Columbia. Is he being sent there by the Imperial Government or by the Canadian Government?

Sir ADOLPHE CARON. I am under the impression that he is being sent out by the Imperial Government for the purpose of inspecting the Esquimalt graving docks, but I am not able to give any definite information.