

liberations of the cabinet. But this question is not one which, according to the opinion of the Minister of Public Works alone is important. You can find evidence of that in the daily papers of the city of Montreal and elsewhere. You will find scarcely a newspaper in which that question is not adverted to in some way. For example, I find in the issue of 'La Presse' of the day before yesterday allusions to this important question. Upon the first page it treats the question of finding out the cause of delay in the city of Montreal. We have suffered now over one year's delay from the absence of an elevator in the city of Montreal, which we should have had a year ago. This paper asks:

Who is to blame? Is it the Minister of Public Works? Is it the Montreal Board of Harbour Commissioners? A solution is desired upon that point.

A reference is made to the reiterated complaints of the Montreal Chambre de Commerce, through its president, Mr. Geoffrion, a friend of the present government, concerning the repeated delays that we have suffered in respect to the construction of an elevator. We have no information in the Speech from the Throne in regard to that or any other question that affects the port of Montreal. And yet, the Minister of Public Works knows it, during the last election in St. James Division, Montreal, and during the election that took place in Laval when the Minister of Public Works and the right hon. the Prime Minister both came down to take part in the fray, these questions were spoken of, they were discussed, and we were assured that the government were anxious to adopt a settled policy in regard to the port of Montreal and to carry out that policy—not in a niggardly manner, not slowly, but promptly, and without regard to expense, as we were advised to do by Mr. Reeve, the late general manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, when he attended an inspection of the port of Montreal some months ago, at which, I think, my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works was present. So much with regard to the question of transportation.

Then, sir, we have not a single word in the Speech from the Throne in regard to the fast Atlantic service. My right hon. friend seems to forget that. It is he who is losing his memory, and not my hon. friend to my right. The hon. gentleman seems to forget that when the Conservative party went out of power in 1896 there was at that moment a contract signed for a fast Atlantic service. Why did not these gentlemen carry it out? They would have had that fast Atlantic service to-day if they had carried it out. The truth is, Mr. Speaker, as we think, and the public generally think, that these gentlemen are fighting a little too much 'like blazes,' as the Minister of Public Works said at the banquet in the city of Montreal. They are fighting so much that they cannot agree

Mr. MONK.

upon any policy, upon any question. The only thing they can agree to speak about in the speech is of Mr. Marconi's coming here. But is it a fact that at this banquet in the city of Montreal, where there was a great divergence of views between the Minister of Public Works and my hon. friend the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Fielding), is it a fact—since you require only facts—that the Minister of Finance went away so tearing mad, so much 'in blazes,' that he said he never would sit again at a banquet with my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works? If you require history, if you require facts that have actually taken place, let us know the true solution of this incident, and let us know if what we hear all over Montreal is true. If we must have nothing but events that have actually occurred, perhaps those gentlemen might tell us how it was that my hon. friend the Minister of Finance and my right hon. friend, the uncrowned king, according to the hon. member for West York (Mr. Campbell)—I think he will be crowned himself instead of witnessing the coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty—let us know how it is that they came down one day to Montreal and anointed as their own candidate a young gentleman of that city, and as soon as they heard that our good friend Mr. Bergeron had manifested some idea of coming forward, they came the following evening to speak on behalf of their anointed candidate, and after they had ascended the platform in the city of Montreal they were obliged to change their tune and sing the praises of the present representative of St. James Division (Mr. Brunet), upon whose head they had been heaping maledictions for a fortnight or more previously. Those are events of which we would like some explanation from hon. gentlemen occupying their high position.

Mr. COCHRANE. How did he get here?

Mr. MONK. Well, the question which my hon. friend puts brings us back to the very important statement in the Speech from the Throne in regard to Mr. Marconi, because, I may inform my hon. friend, we found out during that election campaign in St. James Division that we had nothing to learn from Mr. Marconi in regard to telegraphing and telegraphers, we knew all about it in this country already. Might I ask the right hon. the Prime Minister, since he has referred to Mr. Marconi's visit to this country, what department it was that made the arrangements with Mr. Marconi to which the Speech from the Throne refers? Is there any special department charged with these negotiations? None of these hon. gentlemen seem willing to give us any information upon that question. Might I ask the members of the government—I do so with the object of getting information—if these arrangements which were made with Mr. Marconi have been reduced to writing, and if so, is there