

Sydney except over stumps and stones in a road that could hardly be called a respectable bridle-path. He could point to roads near Salmon River in the same state; where for miles and miles there was nothing but a mere path by which the settlers could bring their produce to market. It was unnecessary for him to enlarge upon the importance of these roads to the settlers, especially as the markets of Cape Breton had been so much extended, since the introduction of foreign capital in the working of the coal mines. And while he did not wish to cast imputation upon any Government, he could not refrain from expressing his opinion that Cape Breton had never received her proper share of the public monies.

Mr. LOCKE thought that these people should have settled along the St. Peter's Canal, instead of going into the interior, where they had no roads.

Mr. ARCHIBALD said that last session he had suggested that the large sum of £4,000, which was granted to what was called the St. Peter's Canal, but what was in reality only a ditch, should be devoted to the roads and bridges of Cape Breton; but the members for that island would not listen to him, and now they began to realize the wisdom of his suggestion. In reference to the settlement of Crown Lands in Cape Breton, alluded to in the Commissioner's report, he would remark that there was a large tract of valuable land between Salmon River and Stewiacke in somewhat a similar position; and he would suggest to the Government the propriety of having the boundaries defined and the land disposed of.

Mr. MILLER thought it strange that whenever a member from Cape Breton got up to demand justice for that Island some other hon. gentleman found it necessary to fling in his teeth this grant to the St. Peter's Canal. The gentlemen who were so fond of doing this had better inform themselves more thoroughly upon the subject. Let them go to Cape Breton and see the necessity that existed for this work, and the great advantages that would result from its completion,—and then perhaps the house would hear less of these sneering allusions to the claims of Cape Breton. Nor did he, for one moment, admit that she had ever received more than her due. When the large amount that she annually contributed to the Provincial revenues was considered, he thought that it would be found that so far from Cape Breton having enjoyed an undue share of public patronage, she had never yet received that consideration to which she was justly entitled.

Mr. ARCHIBALD said that he thought that the disposition of the house had always been to do justice to Cape Breton. Nobody had said that she received an undue share of public patronage, but there might be a difference of opinion as to whether the money expended in the St. Peter's Canal would not have been better employed in developing the interior communication of the country.

Mr. LEVESCONTE was glad that the St. Peter's Canal had advanced a step in the estimation of the hon. member for Colchester since the last session—then it was a "hole," now it was a ditch. That hon. gentleman considered the money granted to that canal as money thrown away. He little knew the importance of the work. Gentlemen should remember that this money had been granted because the people of Cape Breton did not participate in

the benefits to be derived from the large sums expended on railroad communication east and west. He recommended gentlemen to wait until the report of the commissioner upon this work had been laid upon the table. He had arisen principally to call attention to a portion of the crown land commissioner's report, which referred to the settlement of fishermen upon certain parts of the crown lands in Cape Breton, whom he termed squatters. Perhaps they may deserve that title, but at all events some of them, and their fathers before them, had been settled on these lands for 30 or 40 years, and he thought it a great injustice that these men who contributed largely to the revenues of the province should be called upon to pay for the survey and grant of a small piece of land, consisting often of not more than from a half to two acres, as much as was paid for a hundred acres in the interior of the country.

Mr. BLANCHARD agreed as to the injustice of this system, and thought it was time it was altered.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. said that he had always supported the grant to St. Peter's Canal. He did not think that Cape Breton had any right to complain. She had always received her fair share of public monies; and in the matter of Crown Lands she was particularly favored over Nova Scotia Proper. Any person in that island could obtain a grant and have four or five years to pay for it, which was not the case anywhere else.

In allusion to the remarks of the member for Colchester, the Hon. Attorney General acknowledged the importance of having these Crown Lands laid out, and roads made so as to encourage settlers. Some amendment of the law would probably be required, whereby the young men of this country could obtain grants upon the same terms as were now held out to emigrants; for surely it was a wiser policy to endeavor to keep the young men at home than to allow them to go abroad, as they were now doing, to settle in other countries.

Mr. LOCKE said that it always jarred upon his feelings to hear the members for Cape Breton constantly talking of the injustice they received, and especially about the St. Peter's canal. The House had just been told that that grant had been made as an equivalent for the benefits other counties had received from the railroads. He should like to know how much more benefit Shelburne derived from those works than Cape Breton. If that was the principle adopted, he presumed his application for aid to the road from Shelburne to Annapolis was safe.

He agreed with the member for Richmond, (Mr. LeVesconte,) that it was exceedingly unjust that the fishermen should have to pay so large a sum to secure their rights. This should be remedied.

Mr. BOUBINOT said that he would not have referred to the question of the distribution of the road monies, as he did not consider it the proper time to do so, had it not been for the statements of the hon. Attorney General that there had always been a disposition to do justice to Cape Breton. Such was not the case. Cape Breton had never received justice, and he much doubted whether even the Attorney General himself was always inclined to give it to her. The hon. member for Shelburne complained that the members for Cape Breton were constantly urging her claims. They were obliged