

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. There was another point, which is easily understood by those who have anything to do with dredging. If I understood my hon. friend aright, he further stated that, in the succeeding summer this dredge, instead of being employed in clearing out the harbors along the coast, was hired out to a number of private parties in Charlottetown, for which service \$1,500, or thereabouts, seems to have been placed to the credit of the Government. Now, it appears to me that *prima facie*—I wait the explanation of the hon. gentleman—that is an abuse of the machinery at the disposal of the Government. There are a great many people who would like to employ a valuable Government dredge at the rates which were paid, for their own private convenience. I have known other cases, when dredges at the disposal of the Public Works Department, were taken away from places when private parties would have been willing to pay for the purpose of having the dredge a little longer time. It appears to me, on the face of it, to be a very extraordinary circumstance, that the dredge should be employed for this service by a few private persons in Charlottetown during the summer of 1889. The result of that would be, that for two whole seasons the dredge, which was intended to be used along the coast of Prince Edward Island, was either under repair or was employed for private purposes.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. In certain cases when a dredge is in a harbor and work is petitioned for by private individuals, which cannot be done at the public expense, we have several times said: We will have the work done, but you will have to pay for it. In other cases, as the hon. gentleman says, the thing has been refused—in Ontario for example. We did refuse it there because there were private dredges that could be hired by the parties, and we did not want to enter into competition with them. I do not remember the circumstance at Charlottetown, but I may say that there was no other dredge there to do the work. If there had been a dredge, I have no doubt the use of our dredge would have been refused.

Mr. ROBERTSON. Can we entertain the hope that we will get the dredge to some of the harbors in King's County during the coming season? I called the attention of the Minister to the fact that the dredge has not been in that county, except one summer, or part of one summer, since Confederation. We pay our share of the public cost of its maintenance, and I think we should share in the work done. I call specially the Minister's attention to Murray harbor, Montague harbor, Sturgeon harbor and Grand River harbor, all of which require much dredging. There is much shipping there, and it is only justice that King's County, which I represent, should have a share in the work done by the dredge. We have been waiting for twelve years, and the dredge has only been in the county one season, or a part of a season, during that time.

Mr. FREEMAN. As this appears to be the time for claiming the use of the dredge, I desire to enter a claim. The senior member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) has stated that the counties represented by members supporting the Government have the first claim, and as I have the credit of supporting the Government, I presume the Minister will not neglect the harbors in Queen's County,
Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN.

Nova Scotia. The harbors of the county I represent have only had the dredge, I believe, once since Confederation, and it was there only a short time. We have a "barred" harbor, and large vessels cannot enter without danger, and the trade of the town of Liverpool will be greatly increased if the dredge is there a few weeks next season. I request the Minister to take a note of this. It occurs to me, from this discussion, that the hon. gentlemen opposite are very hard to please. The senior member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) claimed that they did not get a fair share of the services of the dredge, and that the wants of members supporting the Government were attended to first. When it was shown that Yarmouth had had a large sum of money expended in dredging, they said that it was due to the efforts of the member who preceded the sitting member and who got the favor. When it was shown that Prince Edward Island obtained a larger share than some of the counties in Nova Scotia, it was said that the dredge was good for nothing and out of repair and so on. So they appear to be dissatisfied in any event. I suppose if the Government refuse to listen to the claims of their supporters and give the services of the dredge only to members of the Opposition, they will be satisfied. This discussion bears testimony to this fact, that it is a very good thing to support the Government, and I am very glad to hear it. This being on the eve of an election, I suppose those hon. gentlemen have some object in view in making that declaration. I frequently heard the complaint that the Government make promises just before an election; but hon. gentlemen opposite seem to have anticipated the Government this time. I am glad to hear that the supporters of the Government will have their claims attended to first, and I will look forward to some advantage on that account, and I am quite sure the Minister will send his dredge to Queen's County and to Liverpool harbor next year.

Dredging, Manitoba.....\$15,000

Mr. WATSON. Does the Minister intend to expend the money on the same works next year?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I cannot answer that question directly.

Mr. WATSON. I am always ready to give credit to the Minister when credit is due. The work done at a small expenditure on Red River and White Mud River has proved very satisfactory, and I only hope it will be continued, because the water in the lakes and rivers has been very low during the last three or four years, and the work should be continued. Good service has been rendered.

Telegraph Lines.....\$49,450

Mr. JONES (Halifax). Will the hon. gentleman state whether the amount asked will complete the work?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The amount of \$5,000 will complete the work of the extension towards Pointe aux Esquimaux. Next we want to put a cable across to Anticosti, in order to join the local service there. That will carry the line to the east end of Anticosti. There it will join the new cable, which a company propose to lay between Canada and England.

Mr. JONES (Halifax). Does the hon. gentleman think it wise to expend \$15,000 to make the