

er of the opposition heard the canal spoken of he invariably expressed a wish to forward any project connected with the welfare of the Island—here was an opportunity of shewing his sincerity by rendering useful support. As to Little Arichat it was unnecessary for him to say a word,—it was one of the most important harbours in the eastern part of the Province, and more shipping was owned out of it than in any other, excepting Pictou harbour. It was a flourishing seaport town, but the harbour was being injured, and if means were not taken it would in course of time be entirely useless. He thought he need not occupy time in arguing to the House the necessity of taking a step so largely demanded by the shipping community of Little Arichat, as the alacrity evinced by the Government made him confident that things would not be allowed to rest at this stage. As to the remarks of the previous speaker, he (Mr. M.) would be the last member to pass by the wants of Shelburne, knowing as he did that that county had similar claims and similar interests to the counties of Cape Breton, and he would go heartily with that hon. gentleman in advocating the rights of the shore counties, believing that their rights were to a large extent neglected and that those which contributed most largely to the revenue derived the least benefit from it. It was time that the representatives of these counties united to force the claims of their constituents and to obtain some degree of justice. While the claims of Shelburne were not stronger than those of Richmond, he would be happy to lend his aid in any reasonable scheme for its benefit; and the hon. member who had spoken would find it prudent to reciprocate. The necessity of taking action upon the report of the engineer was the more apparent from the fact that the country might be ruined very long be called on to assume heavier liabilities, and might be in a position in which she could with less ease afford the outlay.

Mr. LOCKE said he had no antipathy to Cape Breton, but he felt she had received a large share of attention, and in this instance the action of the government led to the supposition that special grants were about to be made, while the other shore counties made applications from time to time without being supplied. If matters went on in this way the available funds would be so used up as to leave no human probability of other portions of the Province receiving a due allowance.

Mr. TOBIN thought the member for Shelburne had not much reason to complain; looking along the coast to the westward it would be found well lighted, nature had deepened its harbors, and towards the western extremity large sums had been expended for breakwaters. Cape Breton had not received an undue proportion of the public money, and looking to the eastward as far as Cape Canso, the coast would be found very badly lighted. Last year, by presenting the case of the Jed-dore Ledges, and by showing the amount of property and life lost there, he had been enabled to get a grant for a lighthouse that would be productive of benefit. Cape Breton was an island possessing unbounded wealth, and if the honorable member for Shelburne went there and witnessed its blue skies, its deep mountain gorges and limpid streams, and sailed over

the classic waters of Lake Bras D'Or, whose banks were once inhabited by a mysterious and enchanted race who fled to the mountains upon the first blast of the Highland bagpipes whence they did not venture excepting on New Year's Day, when they paid their respects to the hon. member for Victoria at Baddeck; looking at that charmed scenery, how could he rise and reflect on the claims of that Island on the Legislature. As to deepening harbours, he (Mr. T.) had some little experience, for the people of Herring Cove having petitioned the house for a grant of money to deepen their harbour, and a grant having been given, a person had been employed, with a dredge to do the work, but after operating there for some time the machinery broke, nothing but a narrow channel having been cleaned, and the people had complained that by the mud being thrown up at the sides, more damage than good was done, because they were no longer able to get access to their stages and wharves. If Richmond county obtained grants for these objects he hoped the members would be more successful. Little Arichat had a large amount of tonnage and had fair claims to consideration. As regards the claims of the fishing counties, it seemed as if the agricultural districts could get any grant they pleased for the importation of stock and for shows, while for these purposes the fishermen did not get a dollar. It might not be practicable to improve the breed of fish, but roads and bridges could be built to establish the necessary communication. At St. Margaret's Bay in the County which he represented, a grant of money had been expended with great advantage on a road from French Village to Dover, and these improvements showed how necessary it was to give attention to fishing communities.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL presented a petition from Cape North on the subject of deepening English. He said he rose with some embarrassment in view of the manner in which subjects connected with Cape Breton were received. For anything that had been said by the hon. member for Shelburne, no reply was needed as that gentleman always spoke with good nature, but when he heard the remarks of the would-be Attorney General of Nova Scotia, and saw the ignorance displayed by him in speaking of certain sections of the country he felt reluctance in bringing any case, however strong, to the notice of the house. He would say candidly to the house that Cape Breton did not feel proud of her connection with Nova Scotia, and that no greater boon could be conferred on the people of the Island than to disunite them. When that was the fact any gentleman coming forward to ridicule Cape Breton and her representatives, and displaying the ignorance of her affairs which the leader of the Opposition evinced, should be ashamed of his position.

PETITIONS.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL also presented a petition from the County of Victoria asking that an Engineer be sent down to English to report on the deepening of the harbour. He said this work was much needed as there were 70 miles of coast without a port for the accommodation of vessels. This district was rapidly progressing and the want of such a port was severely felt;—some years ago an Engineer had been sent down by the late Government, but like every-