

contained in a letter, a copy of which was given to parliament on January 14th.

Ottawa, October 18th. 1912

My dear Premier:--

I regret to find I cannot concur in the decision arrived at by the Cabinet yesterday to place on behalf of Canada an emergency contribution of \$35,000,000 at the disposal of the British government for naval purposes, with the sanction of Parliament, but without giving the Canadian people an opportunity of expressing its approval of this important step before it is taken. Such a concurrence would be at variance with my pledges, and the Act proposed is of sufficient gravity to justify my insistence that it goes beyond the scope of the Constitutional Act of 1867. Holding this view as a member of your Cabinet I feel it my duty to place my resignation in your hand. Permit me to add my decision has been reached with regret on account of my agreeable relations at all times with yourself.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) F. D. MONK

The British Cabinet Drawn in to Help Out Nationalist-Conservative Intrigues.

The next difficulty Mr. Borden had to be prepared to meet, was not the opposition of his own Cabinet, but the opposition of the two Houses of parliament. To help him out in this he hit upon the device of presenting to parliament a state paper which might make it appear that he was carrying out the expressed wish of the British Government. Accordingly when parliament met, he introduced into the debate on December 5th a Memorandum prepared by the British Admiralty. The impression Mr. Borden sought to convey in his speech was that the Cabinet had this Memorandum before it at the time of deciding upon its policy, and that they had decided to ask a large expenditure for ships because the British Admiralty had requested it.

It now appears on the most conclusive evidence that the truth was quite the reverse. Mr. Monk the Minister of Public Works resigned from the Cabinet on October 18th, 1912. His resignation was tendered Mr. Borden in the letter above quoted which expresses Mr. Monk's regret at not being able to concur in the "decision reached at the Cabinet meeting yesterday" (October 17th). This makes it perfectly plain that the Borden Cabinet decided upon its policy on October 17th. The communication from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Hon. Lewis Harcourt, forwarding the Admiralty Memorandum to His Royal Highness the Governor-General, is dated Downing St. (London), October 25th, 1912 a week after Mr. Monk's resignation, and eight days after Mr. Borden's Cabinet had reached a decision as to what course it would take.

What transpired in the interval, is very readily surmised. Mr. Monk's resignation on the ground that he saw no need for an