

difference between the conduct of the hon. member and himself was this, that while the hon. gentleman opposed many questions he was generally wrong, while his (Mr. BLAKE's) suggestion appeared to be correct. The observations he (Mr. BLAKE) made during the late debate were made towards its close. The hon. member sought to make it appear, although the canal would skirt the County of Cumberland, that he was not affected by it: but all the members from Nova Scotia who spoke adversely to this work did not do so from considerations of public interest, but from base, sordid and sectional motives. Let the hon. member take his words and apply them to himself, and let him tell that hon. member that no man who proposed that \$6,800,000 or \$800,000 of the public money of this country should be spent on works adjoining his own constituency had a right to complain because the Government declared that they would take pains to ascertain the value of that work before they entered upon it. The hon. gentleman was good enough to use expressions towards him (Mr. BLAKE). He would not complain of the unparliamentary language used, because they were accustomed to it from the hon. member. The hon. gentleman had said, for example, that he (Mr. BLAKE) was immoral and corrupt.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER—No, no!

Hon. Mr. BLAKE said the hon. gentleman had asserted that he (Mr. BLAKE) used immoral and corrupt arguments and any such man must be himself immoral and corrupt. The hon. gentleman might take that to himself, too. What did the hon. member say further? He said that coming from the Province of Ontario, he (Mr. BLAKE) did not declare himself in favor of the Baie Verte Canal for the reason that it was impossible, owing to the statement of the Premier, to say definitely that any private member could come to a conclusion on that scheme on which the Government itself did not consider it had sufficient information to come to a decision. What he (Mr. BLAKE) said then was that in his opinion the same expenditure, provided the canal scheme was proved to be impracticable, should be made on objects of public national importance in the Maritime Provinces.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER said there were plenty of such objects. He thought the

Hon. Mr. Blake.

Maritime Provinces were entitled to assistance for any object of public national importance, entirely irrespective of the bargain to vote down the Baie Verte Canal. He remembered that when the hon. member for Cumberland was in the late Government, and any question was asked respecting expenditures in the Maritime Provinces, he indicated that those questions showed a feeling of opposition on the part of Ontario members to those expenditures. If the Baie Verte Canal project should be proved to be impracticable, he was prepared to agree to a similar sum being expended on public works of national importance in the Maritime Provinces; but he was not prepared with respect to the Baie Verte Canal—though it did pass through the County of Cumberland—to support its construction until it was demonstrated that the work was one to be built in the interests of the people of Canada.

Right Hon. Sir JOHN MACDONALD said he did not understand from the speech of the hon. member for Cumberland that he at all objected to the advice given by the hon. member for South Bruce to the Ministry. That hon. gentleman from his place in Parliament had a right to do so if he thought the Ministry were wrong, and it was his duty to do so. What the hon. member for Cumberland did say was that that advice was offered to the Administration at the time they were propounding another and a different policy; that at the very time when the Government were coming down after due deliberation and after eighteen months' possession of office, having every opportunity to consider the value of this canal, as well as all other canals and public works connected with the country—the hon. member for South Bruce had only to rise late in the debate and express his opinion that they were taking a reckless course, for the Government to at once adopt the suggestion—listen to the frown from above—hear the thunder roar, and submit to his dictation. It was apparent that the hon. member for South Bruce possessed influence—every one knew that he possessed it, and it was indeed agreeably obvious to some gentlemen in the House—the large proportion of the supporters of the Government—but it was disagreeably obvious to the First Minister. It was more glaringly obvious in this