

believe that, independent of some personal consideration, there was no urgency for action, and the moneys of this country ought not to have been expended in any way without first consulting this House. We ought to be consulted in every respect with regard to the expenditure of public money, and I believe that the Minister has failed to discharge the duties which he owes to this country, not only in this, but possibly in other respects, in that he has not consulted the House, when he knew perfectly that there was no urgency with regard to the expenditure of this money. I believe the First Minister has given us a clue to the whole matter, because when he referred in such pathetic tones to one of his supporters who has not now a place in the House, he told us casually that that gentleman was probably not so comfortably situated as he had been, as the result of his filial duty to his party, and the great zeal he had displayed for his country; and I believe the great anxiety of the present Government to lay out this great park—and I have no objection to reserving that land as a public park—and expend the public money thereon as rapidly as they have done, has not been in the interest of this country, but in the interest of some parties who formerly had seats in this House. I have no objection to the Government setting aside this land as a public park; I believe that in doing so, they are discharging a public duty, I believe this land ought to be set aside as a public park for the use of the country; but I believe, with the public debt hanging over us that exists, with our annual expenditure rapidly increasing, in view of the deficiencies that have occurred during the last couple of years, it is the duty of the representatives of the people to watch carefully any proposal to place in the hands of the Government powers such as they are asking, and when they have committed a public offence (and I believe they have committed a public offence in this case) by expending public money not absolutely necessary in the interest of the country without consulting Parliament, I trust this House will not be a party to an action of this character. I trust the Government will set aside this land for public use, as they have stated; but I hold they ought not to include in this park any coal lands, the development of which may be necessary in the interest of the country. If there are any coal lands the development of which is really in the public interest, then they should not be placed under the absolute control of any Minister of the Crown, but they should come within the ordinary law with respect to such lands.

Sir DONALD A. SMITH. I hope that the House considers that it is only quite recently the curative properties of the Banff Springs really became known, hon. members will find sufficient justification for the Minister of the Interior, and for the Government, in the expenditure they have undertaken on that park without waiting for the sanction of Parliament. The justification, I think, is to be found in the fact that many sufferers have been relieved, that people have gone there cripples and severe sufferers and have returned restored to health. That, in my opinion, ought to be sufficient justification. But it is very evident that the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Jones) and other gentlemen who have spoken of the expenditure, and found fault with the outlay made at Banff Park, have not taken the trouble to visit that country, and had those hon. gentlemen visited the North-West and seen what a magnificent country we have when you get beyond the prairies to the mountains, they would have returned and, as the hon. members for South Perth (Mr. Trow) and North Wellington (Mr. McMullen) have done, expressed themselves in every respect satisfied with what they saw there. It has been said that the expenditure should be made at the cost of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. Perhaps I, as an interested party, should not say much on that subject, but I may mention that the Canadian Pacific Railway

Mr. MALLORY.

Company are now expending, and will have expended by the first of July or by August, at all events, at least \$100,000 in building an hotel for the accommodation of those visiting the springs, not as a matter of profit, but with the view, when it has been made a success, of giving it over on the most reasonable terms possible to those who will manage it properly and make it a place of resort equal to any on the continent. Anyone who has gone to Banff, and from the plateau on which the hotel is to be built, has looked down on the fall immediately below, a fall of eighty feet or more with a large volume of water, who has looked on the reaches of the Bow River, and, on turning round beheld the mountains towering heavenward, and not felt himself elevated and proud that all this is part of the Dominion, cannot be a true Canadian. I should like very much that the hon. gentleman for Halifax (Mr. Jones) and all those who have some peculiar ideas of their own down there would go to the North-West, and we would then hear very little more of secession or any desire to secure other connection than that with the Dominion, and if they would go beyond Banff to the Pacific they would find that every inch of ground was a picture either of grandeur or of beauty, such as is not to be found elsewhere. I give this, not as my own opinion, because I have not crossed the continent over the other Pacific lines, but I could give the names of many Americans, who will not be supposed to be over-partial to Canada, who have been over the Canadian route and who have seen everything else that is grand on the whole continent, as well as in Europe and the eastern countries, Japan and elsewhere, and they say that for an equal extent of country they have seen nothing to compare with it. I do hope those hon. gentlemen who have not seen the North-West and the mountain district will go there without loss of time, and I am sure they will return to this House and rejoice that we have such a country and a Government that are desirous of making it what it ought to be. One word more with respect to the Banff Park. I see there is an alternative in the Bill, either to sell or to lease. I trust that the leasing system will be adopted, so that the Government will have full and thorough control of it, and thus be able to impose conditions which will prevent the introduction of much that is to be found in such places, and which it is not desirable should prevail.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Perhaps the hon. gentleman can tell us what the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are going to do with respect to the lands there. It will be pleasing to hear from so good an authority, whether the company will waive their claim or not. I think the hon. gentleman was not present when this point was mentioned.

Sir DONALD A. SMITH. I was not present.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. No; but the hon. gentleman might perhaps inform us.

Committee rose.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING THE FISHERIES.

Mr. FOSTER. I beg to lay on the Table of the House Correspondence relative to the Fishery Question from 1885 to 1887, and I desire at the same time to say that, although at my request the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Ellis) withdrew his motion last night for a copy of the instructions given to the fishery officers for 1887, yet after having carefully considered those instructions, which are merely supplementary to those of last year, I decided to bring them down, and they will be found embodied in the report.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.