

Mr. FISHER. In Shelburne and Queen's, near the entrance to Liverpool harbour, about three miles from the town.

Mr. AMES. Has anything been expended on this work?

Mr. FISHER. No; this is a revote for the whole amount.

Mr. AMES. It has already been revoted twice. Have we any assurance that the work will be done this year?

Mr. FISHER. If this vote goes through, there is no reason why it should not be done this year. The Supply Bill was passed so late last year that nothing could be done during the season.

Mr. AMES. But this vote was also passed the year before.

Mr. SPROULE. It is a very bad principle for parliament to vote money when it is not expended. The idea is to have money available in the event of an election, so that the government can become active in spending it. If the expenditure is necessary at all, the work should be done during the year for which the money is voted. We should not encumber our estimates from year to year with these revotes. Some of these have been revoted four times without being spent; and the principle is an extremely bad one.

Mr. FISHER. I quite agree with my hon. friend. One reason why we have changed the fiscal year is that the money may be available before the summer is nearly over. These works cannot be proceeded with in the winter, and when the House rises in July or August it is impossible for public works to be gotten under way before the winter sets in. If this year we get the Supply Bill sanctioned within the month of April, there is a fair chance of letting the contracts and having the work done during the season. I hope that will be the case this year. I am afraid my hon. friend is exaggerating when he says that some of these have been voted four times. In this present case I find that the current year just finished was the first appropriation for this purpose.

Mr. SPROULE. I do not believe I have exaggerated, and I think I can point to several items that will come within my description. If the government intend to turn over a new leaf it will indeed be refreshing.

New Campbellton—ballast wharf in Kelly's cove, \$7,700.

Mr. BLAIN. What is this for?

Mr. FISHER. This vote is to complete. The contract was let in November, 1906; the total amount of the work is \$17,000.

Mr. BLAIN. The amount was first voted in 1905, and the minister then stated that \$12,000 would finish the work. Did the government decide to spend more afterwards?

Mr. FISHER. The lowest contract was for \$17,000, and we had to outvote the additional amount.

Mr. BLAIN. But the minister stated in 1905 that the tenders were in, and that the total cost would be \$12,000. He must have known then what the tenders were.

Mr. FISHER. The explanation is, I suppose, that the tenders were not opened. The lowest tender was \$17,000.

Parker's cove—improvements, \$8,000.

Mr. CROCKET. What are these improvements?

Mr. FISHER. The extension of the breakwater on the east side of the stream flowing into Parker's Cove, which is done under contract; constructing a breakwater on the west side of the stream, and affording additional shelter to the fishing boats.

Mr. CROCKET. Did the minister state the contract had been let?

Mr. FISHER. Yes, a contract has been let.

Mr. CROCKET. At what price?

Mr. FISHER. \$7,100 for the eastern breakwater and it is expected we will have to spend \$3,600 on the western breakwater, the contract for which has not yet been let.

Mr. CROCKET. How much has been expended?

Mr. FISHER. Nothing has been spent on the latter, I do not know how much the contractor has spent on this.

Mr. CROCKET. Has anything been paid to the contractor on account of his contract?

Mr. FISHER. Yes, it was expected that out of last year's vote we would expend \$3,300. I cannot say positively how much was spent.

Mr. CROCKET. When does the contract call for the completion of the work?

Mr. FISHER. The 30th of April.

Parrsboro harbour, \$11,200.

Mr. BENNETT. How much was spent on this last year?

Mr. FISHER. About \$6,000 out of \$20,000; we are asking a revote of \$16,000.

Mr. BENNETT. Is this under contract?

Mr. FISHER. Yes.

Mr. BENNETT. Per yard?