

of electric locomotives. Each engine weighs about ten ton : and the motor, which is of the Edison-Hopkinson type, takes the current from a conductor carried on the wooden sleepers between the rails of the line. The subway is lighted by electric glow-lamps ; the brake used will be the Westinghouse automatic ; and there will be a three-minute service each way of trains of three coaches, each capable of carrying thirty-four passenger. The line, of which a satisfactory trial was made on 5th March, is expected to be open for traffic early in the summer."

That is the description of the one they are now building. Hon. gentlemen may be surprised that I stick so persistently to this question. It is true that I am not an engineer, nor do I contend that my opinion is more valuable on such a question than the opinion of any other hon. gentleman in this House, but when such men as Mr. Walter Shanly tell me that this project is feasible—and he allowed me to use his name in saying so—when men like General McAlpine, General Newton, and others who have been consulted with regard to the harbor of Montreal and the harbor of Toronto—past engineers of the Institutes of England and the United States—say that this can be done for a certain amount, an amount which, in my judgment, is not outside the realm of practical politics, it is a reason why I am so persistent in urging this particular project. If it can be proved beyond any kind of doubt that this tunnel would cost \$10,000,000 I do not think that I should be justified in asking the Government to expend \$10,000,000 ; but if it can be done for \$5,000,000, there is no reason why I should not urge it. Suppose it can be done for \$5,000,000 it would not cost the Government of Canada one cent more than it is costing now to maintain the summer service and winter service, and the accessories belonging to it. It is proved conclusively that the Government have paid some \$214,000 per annum for the performance of this service in a manner that is not satisfactory to themselves or to the public. That is the reason why I have asked that the matter should be submitted to a commission of engineers who are competent to judge in such matters. Outside of the abstract question that we are entitled to have the terms of Confederation carried out, I urge this scheme upon the economic ground that it is merely taking the same amount of money that we are now expending, and using it in a manner more satisfactory to the public. It may be said that we should not come here and ask for an expenditure of \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000 for a small Province like

Prince Edward Island. I am not coming here with any such demand ; I simply say that the terms made with Prince Edward Island ought to be carried out, and if I can point to a way in which they can be carried out without greater expense to the country than the present unsatisfactory system I am doing a service to the Government. That must be decided by engineers who are competent to investigate such a scheme and give an estimate with regard to it. We see that recently, with regard to the harbor of Montreal, the Government submitted the question to Mr. Walter Shanly, Colonel Gzowski and another engineer whose name, at the moment, I do not recollect. These gentlemen will make a report on the question, and no doubt the same gentlemen could also give a report on the proposed subway under the Straits of Northumberland, and some such course will have to be taken before the people of Prince Edward Island will be satisfied on this question. We have to-day the same summer service that we had nearly thirty years ago, and it is unsatisfactory, as members of the Government must know. If we had in this Chamber a Minister of Marine and Fisheries and a Minister of Finance they would, no doubt, be able to explain to the House why it is so ; but we have not got them here, and therefore we must address the gentlemen who represent them here regarding this particular matter, and I contend that the service as it is performed at the present day is not satisfactory to the Government, nor can it be satisfactory to the Government. No Government like to have fault found continually with them, and much less should we in this branch of the Parliament of Canada, by any act of ours, cause any Province of the Dominion to continue to be dissatisfied. I have shown to the House by the memorials from the Government of Prince Edward Island from time to time that they are dissatisfied, and I have shown that they have gone to the foot of the Throne. I quite understand that it is a most unfortunate thing for me, as an advocate of this scheme, and unfortunate for the people of Prince Edward Island, that we have no representative in the other branch of the Legislature supporting the Government. But that has nothing to do with the merits of this question. I am not guilty myself on that point ; but