

ried on, and that connection with Nova Scotia should be commenced and pushed through to completion. Not knowing what hindrances were in the way, was I to thought they had had time enough to deliberate on what was wanted by a small country like this, with a population of less than 300,000. I told them I intended to support them if they brought in measures I could approve. I came here perfectly free and independent. I am not as a partisan of any set of men. I came here pledged against Confederation, no farther am I pledged, and I propounded the same ideas to my constituents on the hustings as I did here. After the statement made by the President of the Council, that obstacles stood in the way of carrying on the work of the main line, I learned that there had been a distinct offer made to carry on the work to completion. I do not intend to oppose the Government, but am I to be cathechized because, when the speech was going by without discussion, and the mover of the address gave no statement of the policy of the Government, I rose to express my opinions on public works.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—I do not quite understand the object of the hon. member's fishing himself into such an immense fishery. The hon. member is not bound so far as I know, certainly not to me, for I was not in the Government at the time of the elections. He is only pledged on the question of Confederation. I do not complain of the course expressed my colleague. I only expressed my disappointment and surprise at the course which he saw proper to pursue, a course that must surprise our constituents as much as it did me. The Government had not been in existence twenty-four hours, when the hon. member stood up and said, that the indications were bad, and complained that we had not brought in any grand scheme for the colonization of the country. As I said, he is not responsible to me, but to his constituents. It has gone forth to the country that he is the Opposition, still I don't complain of his Opposition, still I don't complain of his actions, but I tell him as I would any other hon. member that I was surprised and disappointed at the course he saw fit to pursue. And now it is said that no difficulties really exist, I put it to the late Surveyor General, if Mr. Parks did not go to England under pledges of the late Government. And under these circumstances, we should be recreant to every principle of justice, if we proceeded with the work. I ask the hon. member, if he were a member of a Government, whether he would not feel bound by such action. He is pleased that the Government do not intend to carry on the work, yet his late leader was willing to guarantee the balance of the cost of Western Extension. Mr. Tilley is by all acknowledged to be a cautious man, and would not make such a pledge unless he intended to carry it out. The hon. member cannot deny it. This—his mouth is shut on this point. I want to put it to the Government, should they be willing the good faith of the late Government, and that the pledges made by them should be broken, in order to carry this work at once.

Mr. McCLELLAN.—Do I understand that the Government would go on with the work, if no legislation stood in the way?

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—Yes, and I think so. Mr. CONNELL.—In case the Government surrender their charter, and the Government any right to go on with the work?

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—It is not usual to ask questions of this kind until the address has passed, and I shall certainly decline to answer.

Mr. CONNELL.—But this may have a material bearing on the vote of the House.

Mr. McMILLAN.—In reply to the question of the President of the Council I would say, that if the late Government had not been prepared to meet the legislation on the question they would not have met them, but if they had intended to carry on a certain work they would have foreshadowed it in the Speech. I have foreshadowed the attention of Hon. Mr. WOODBURY to the promise of the late Provisional Secretary which he stated was to provide for the building of the road Westward if sufficient Stock was not taken up to complete the work.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN.—What I said was that the Facility Bill provided a grant of \$10,000, and there was a large amount of Stock subscribed, the city had agreed to take \$400,000 worth of Stock, and then Mr. Tilley promised to provide all the rest at six per cent.

Mr. McMILLAN.—What I understood by the statement of Mr. Tilley was this, that as a member of the Government he would take the responsibility of guaranteeing the balance over a million dollars, taking security on the whole of the road.

Mr. WYOMORE.—Being a new member and rather green, I may be pardoned if I state my opinion on this matter. I apprehend that if the Government want to pass an Act for the Government to carry out, they will apply to the House to do so, and if the House is so disposed, they will pass the Act.

Mr. WYOMORE.—I understand the Government intend to carry on Western Extension and therefore I shall support the passage of this paragraph. I think there are independent men enough in the country to depend on for public works, and carry them out with economy, and that they could get more out of it than any individual company could do. But of course if influences are brought to bear upon them, and they are brought to give two prices to one public tractor, and three to another, no public money will be wasted. I do not expect anything of this kind from the present Government, for from the high standing they hold—although elements in it judge much conservative elements in it judge in their hands the finances are safe.

Mr. LINDSAY.—I am disappointed in reading the Speech that the Government are not going on with the work. The President of the Council says he is not responsible for the statements that the Government and other members of the Government say they are not responsible.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN.—I said that I was responsible.

Mr. LINDSAY.—Yes and the hon. member said more than that. He said also that he was not a member of the Government when he made certain statements, and consequently is not responsible for such. Mr. Tilley said that he would guarantee, after all the Stock of the Company was paid up, the balance of the road, taking the road as security. Now (a sure for me to go forward with that proposition.)

Mr. LINDSAY.—I don't go into that. Very members, and members have talked about the question, however, I wish to say that I am not responsible for the statements that he got second hand. He said that he made a remark on Saturday that he would explode. I did not say so. I think after the effort of this Government there is no danger of its being to night. He further referred to remarks

made to Mr. Goodspeed. I said that the statement he put forth that every man, woman, and child would be taxed \$3 a head was not true. It appears to me that honorable members have been wandering back in their Speeches to other paragraphs. The members of the present Government used to cry to the late Government, bring down your measures; now they find fault because of the expressions used on the absence of any line of policy they intend to pursue.

Mr. McMILLAN.—I would not like to take the position of the honorable member for Northumberland, but his feelings were with the Government, and I like to take an opposite one, but I think that gentlemen in the Government should be thankful to be in the Government, that if they have arrived at positions they would not otherwise have had. Flushed by a victory their exposition of Confederation is worth little. I believe that half the votes in the country are in its favor. I am opposed to the passage of the paragraph in the address, as it seems to complicate certain things which have arisen under existing legislation—which they declare to be a sham and a delusion. I do not suppose that the Government after the surrender of any rights any company may have thought they held, would proceed to act under the Act of 1856, and proceed with the trunk and branches as they recollect it may be they have the power and ability to use the offices entrusted to them for the good of the country. I am willing to give them a fair and reasonable time to mature their plans. But we are not willing to allow them to increase the public expenditure without consulting the people.

Mr. WYOMORE.—A question so much discussed and talked about, the Government might really be supposed to have arrived at a conclusion as to what course to pursue. I understand too companies were organized and were prepared to go on, but I fear that the action of the Government will tend to upset what has been done. This paragraph does not contain a sufficiently explicit policy as to the ideas entertained by the Government on Railway affairs. I think the Amendment gives the Government sufficient power to do all they need to do.

Mr. KERR.—I readily second the view of the law as expanded by the hon. member for the City of Saint John.

Mr. KERR.—I am pleased as a Government member from interfering with the rights of a Company that may have intended to enter upon this work. I think it is more proceeding as well as we could expect. We learn that it is intended to carry on the line to fill up the gap to the Nova Scotia boundary, and that the late Government accepted the offer made by the

Mr. KERR.—I think it premature to interfere with efforts put forth to fill up the gap. I have not yet taken up the matter of Maine here; yet based upon the matter with that, every that we can do to secure that they will be there. If they are ready before we can be there, it would be premature to make any forward with that proposition.

Mr. KERR.—I think they are ready to meet me.

Mr. WYOMORE.—I understand they are taking up measures, and that a deputation will probably be here in a few days to lay their claim before us.

Mr. KERR.—Am they from the Legislature or are they from the Government?

Mr. WYOMORE.—They represent a Company, and will be composed of men of business.

Mr. KERR.—Railways are usually built