

It might happen that these debentures would not all be taken up when they are due, and if any of those unsold debentures should fall into the hands of a *bona fide* holder, will not this Province feel bound to pay them. I think it is necessary for this Province that as many of these debentures should be issued here as possible, so that the interest can be saved in the country, which at present is a great drain upon our resources.

Mr. CONNELL.—I have no objection to this Bill further than this, that some provision should be made to prove that those bonds had been destroyed, and some record kept here specifying those bonds that have been taken up. I understand by the Bill that the whole amount of debentures to the extent of \$500,000 can be issued if the Government think proper.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—It is the intention of the Government to leave \$30,000 in the hands of the Messrs. Baring, to provide for any run which may be made upon the Savings' Bank deposit. There is some weight in the objection taken in regard to having those bonds destroyed, and there should be some provision made for it.

Mr. KERR moved the following additional section to the Bill which was carried:

"The debentures issued under the said security acts, and remaining unsold, shall be cancelled or destroyed before any debentures shall be issued beyond the amounts now actually in the hands of purchasers; evidence of such cancelling or destroying to be made appear to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council."

The Bill was then agreed to as amended.

Hon. Mr. SMITH moved the House into Committee to take into Consideration

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO AN ACT RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—It has been stated in the House that Mr. Levesey, on behalf of the International Railway Company, made a proposition to the late Government regarding the construction of the railway from Moncton to the Nova Scotia boundary. There is reason to believe that some effectual arrangement may be made with him during the coming season, and this Bill provides for the taking of land for that purpose; there being no provision of that kind now made.

Mr. CUDLIFF.—I am not willing to vote for building a railway to Nova Scotia, unless as part of the great highway to the United States. The Government should have the power to stay proceedings on that line until Western Extension is undertaken by Government or a Company. I am not willing to tax the people of this Province to build a mere section of the road, unless it is built as part of the great whole.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—Does the hon. member mean to say that if Mr. Levesey choose to build this portion of the line, Government should be called upon to build Western Extension? If any company choose to build this road under the Facility Bill of last year we could not stop them.

Mr. KERR.—If I understand this Bill it makes every necessary provision to enable any company to construct any of the lines provided under the Facilities Bill. My hon. friend from St. John stated he would not consent to build that portion of the line between Moncton and the Nova Scotia boundary, un-

less it was concurrent with Western Extension. I might, with equal justice, say I would not consent unless the line on the North Shore was built. If a company could be induced to build it they should have the same facilities as any other portion of the line, for I think it is very unfair to hold out an inducement of \$10,000 a mile, and then tell the Company they cannot enter upon the line.

On a division of the House this Bill was agreed to.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

MESSRS. LEWIS, A. C. DESBRIAY, YOUNG and CORAM, requested to have their names recorded on the journals as voting in favor of the resolution for the appointment of delegates to confer with other delegates on the subject of the Union of the Maritime Provinces.

Mr. NEEDHAM.—I certainly think that when that resolution came up members necessarily absent on business in the Committee Room should have been called, for it is a subject of the greatest importance, and more particularly affects the County of York than any other County in the Province. I am decidedly opposed to it, for I do not think any such union can be effected that will be a benefit to New Brunswick; on the contrary it would materially injure the Province.

With regard to a commercial union, or the adoption of a uniform tariff, and postal rates, I have no objection; if we can assimilate our tariff, postal arrangements and currency, it will, no doubt be a benefit to the colonies, but I never will consent to a legislative union, which is part and parcel of this resolution, which certainly commits the members of this House; for if this delegation agrees to a legislative union, how can any member get up and oppose it after having voted for this resolution. Now, as a matter of courtesy, when a proposition is made by one Province to another, I am willing to extend all the courtesy I can, consistent with my duty, but I am not willing to have a delegation go there and determine whether we shall have a legislative or commercial union, for those who vote for it will be bound by it. I believe that a legislative union would be more destructive to this Province than that grand Confederation scheme, and if we must choose between two evils we had better choose the least.

If I had to choose between a Legislative Union of the Lower Colonies, or this grand Confederation scheme which I do not believe in, I would say, give me the Confederation scheme; ten to one, This Union of the Lower Colonies would dwindle us down into absolute insignificance; it would deprive us of our seat of Government, and render the whole Province less than a municipality. I confess I feel strongly on this subject, and do not wish to be misunderstood, I want to record my vote against it, but I do not want to record a silent vote. We do not know what this delegation may do, when they get there, but I do not feel disposed to give them the power to legislate for a Legislative Union. Some persons might say because I was away from my seat that I shirked the question. Perhaps I may be rather too bold, but I never shrink. I am prepared to speak, vote, and act as I think, whether it is right or wrong, and then I am responsible for what I do. If the word Legislative Union had not been there I would have voted for the resolution, for we ought to have a delegation to consider a Commercial Union; but I

would not give them any power to discuss whether we should have a Legislative Union or not. If those powers were contained in the resolution I trust the House will allow me to record my vote against it. I feel that I am bound by every principle of honor and integrity to carry out the principle which I was sent to this House to sustain, as I believe my constituents, men, women and children, would rise up and condemn me, were I to assent to a proposition which I have so often attempted to show would be to the detriment and injury of the Province.

Mr. WETMORE.—I wish my name recorded in favor of this delegation, and if they come to the conclusion that a Legislative Union is necessary, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying I shall go cheerfully for it. My impression is rather in favor of it; but, however, it is better to have the matter discussed by the delegation, and let them recommend what they consider the best for the country.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.—One of the members for York (Mr. Fraser) was present when this discussion came up, and he expressed himself favorable to a Commercial Union, but I was not aware a division of the House was to be taken upon the subject at all.

The House in Committee agreed to "A Bill to amend an Act to provide for the erection of an Alms House Work House, and to establish a Public Infirmary in and for the City and County of St. John."

Also, "An Act to explain certain sections in a Bill relating to Sewerage."

Also, "A Bill relating to marriage."

Also, "A Bill to establish a Police force in the Town of Chatham."

Also, "A Bill to amend an Act to incorporate the Trustees of the St. John Church in Chatham, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia."

House adjourned to meet to-morrow, at 9, A. M. T. P. D.

FRIDAY, May 26.

COLE'S ISLAND BRIDGE.

Mr. WILLISTON moved the House into Committee of the whole on the correspondence laid before the House in reply to an Address to His Excellency, relating to the Bridge across the Washademoak, at Cole's Island.

Mr. McCLELLAN in the chair.

The correspondence having been read by the chairman, Mr. WILLISTON moved the following resolution:

Whereas, the House of Assembly being in Committee of the whole on the 28th March, 1864, the following resolution was moved:

"Whereas, It is believed that internal communication on the Eastern side of the River St. John would be greatly facilitated, and business on the European and North American Railroad much augmented by the erection of a Bridge over the North-west channel of the Washademoak, from Cole's Island to the main land on that side, and that the erection of said Bridge would not be attended with a large expenditure of money. Therefore Resolved, As in the opinion of this Committee, that an Humble Address should be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying His Excellency's favorable consideration of the matter, and that he may be pleased to direct the attention of the Board of Works to this very desirable and necessary object, with a view of its erection at an early day."