

would have to thank the hon. member for Kent for defining his position, and, at the same time, for his gratuitous attack upon the Government. It would be imagined that when it was known that the Government were in the throes of dissolution, any man possessing a heart with the least sentiment of feeling would have refrained from any expression of reproval or condemnation. But such an attack, he held, was ungenerous and unfeeling in the extreme. They did not ask for a suspension of business on their own account, but only that the business of the country might be carried on according to the principles which had been laid down and accepted.

Mr. FISHER said that everything was passing along smoothly and pleasantly, but the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Anglin) had thrown a firebrand into the discussion, and called forth the remarks of the hon. member for Kent.

Mr. ANGLIN was not aware that he had thrown any firebrand, and if the hon. member for Kent did not know anything about the time required to get together and form a new Government, he should have refrained from making the remarks he had. He said that it was only courtesy to the retiring Government and to the Opposition, to adjourn, that they might have time, on the one hand, to obtain their reply, and on the other to mature new plans.

Mr. HILL said he should like to see the business go on, but it was patent to all, that all that might be done would amount to nothing. The House would probably be adjourned, prorogued or dissolved this week, and there would be no time for Bills which might pass the House, to be got through the Legislative Council.

Mr. FRASER said this was not only the case, but the business would not be constitutional. The Governor was at the present time without advisers, and consequently the House could not go on with the business of the country.

Mr. NEEDHAM said he had no doubt of the unconstitutionality of the House proceeding with business, and should move that the House adjourn till to-morrow at half-past two P. M.

Mr. KERR said he did not wish to go on if any reasonable objection could be shown. There was a precedent in the matter, for on the 23rd October, 1855, the House passed the address, and on the 30th went in a body to Government House. On the 31st met and proceeded with business without adjournment till Mr. Ritchie came down and announced that a new Government was formed, and writs issued for a new election. The House was then prorogued. If this was the case, then why could not business go on now. This, he believed, was the only precedent, and business was carried on from day to day. He did not wish, however, to act discourteously to the Government, but as the Bill he had introduced was entirely local, he could not see how it could in any way embarrass or affect them.

Hon. Mr. HATHEWAY said the position of affairs was different now from that referred to. On that occasion Mr. Ritchie came to the House and announced the resignation of the Government, and that the Governor had called upon others to carry on the business. No such communication had been made now.

Mr. WILMOT said he was a member

of that Government, and he thought it was a case in point.

Mr. FISHER said he went to Government House on that occasion, and they were two days forming the new administration, and when Mr. Ritchie came to the House the new members had been sworn in. He hoped the hon. member for Northumberland would withdraw his motion and allow the House to adjourn.

Mr. KERR complied, and the House then adjourned till to-morrow, at half-past two P. M.

J. MARCH.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12.

Hon. Mr. SMITH stated that the correspondence had not yet closed concerning the resignation of the Government, as they had not received a reply which his Excellency had promised them; under these circumstances, he thought they should proceed with the business of the country.

The House in Committee agreed to "A Bill to establish an additional polling place in the County of York."

Also "A Bill to amend the law relating to the widening of Cross Street in Saint John."

"A Bill to incorporate the President, Directors and Company of the Northern Bank."

"A Bill to authorize the Corporation of St. John to become Shareholders in the European and North American Railway Company for its extension from St. John Westward."

Mr. CORAM said the bill was to authorize the Corporation of St. John to take stock in that Railway to the extent of \$60,000, and to issue debentures for that purpose.

Mr. ANGLIN said if the road was likely to be built by the Company he would be willing to pledge the credit of St. John for a much larger amount, but he saw no prospect of this, for it had been five months since the Company had commenced operations, and he believed that not one dollar of the Company's stock had been paid up by the stockholders. The day he came up to Fredericton he saw but 17 men employed on the road, and he thought it was a bogus transaction from beginning to end. He did not know whether to oppose the bill or not, particularly as it was only a Permissive Bill.

Mr. CORAM said the Common Council would not sell these debentures until they were certain that the Company would carry out their arrangements, and build the road.

Mr. HILL said he was authorized by Mr. Burpee to state that there were seventy-five men working on the road. He (Mr. Burpee) said that he had no doubt but what they were in a position to go on and complete the work. He (Mr. H.) thought it was the duty of the House to render all the assistance they could to the Company, as that was the only means of preventing its being built as a Government work.

Mr. LINDSAY thought the City of St. John should give a bonus to the Company of that amount, as the building of this Railroad would prove a great benefit to that city, as was the building of the Grand Trunk Railroad to Portland, which increased the value of property there fourfold. He was surprised that his hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Anglin) opposed

ed every thing that came up regarding Western Extension. He (Mr. Anglin) was afraid he was going to be a false prophet, for he had stated that a foot of Railway never would be built under the Subsidy Act. He (Mr. L.) thought St. John would be a gainer if they gave four times that amount, as this road would bring the trade from the interior to the sea-board. He would do all he could for the Company, but he was opposed to Railways being built as Government works.

Mr. GILBERT said his hon. friend from St. John, (Mr. Anglin), who should be well informed in regard to the ability of this Company to build the road, being lately a member of the Government, called this a bogus Railway Company. We should, therefore, hesitate before passing a bill authorizing the Corporation of St. John to tax the citizens to aid this company. He wished to encourage the building of Railroads, as it opened up the country and leads to emigration and the settlement of the country, but he considered that a company that undertook the work of building Western Extension should have a very large capital to carry on the work successfully.

Mr. ANGLIN said his hon. friend (Mr. Gilbert) could judge for himself. The road would cost \$2,500,000, and there had not been one dollar paid up or called for. The Company have already a subsidized stock of \$140,000, and they want this \$260,000 in addition. If it was not a permissive Bill, he would give it his most strenuous opposition.

Mr. FISHER said the only objection he had to the Bill was that the amount of stock to be taken in St. John was not one-tenth of what it should be. The town of Woodstock, with only two thousand inhabitants, had given \$40,000 in aid of their branch line, and surely St. John, with its wealth and population, should give \$500,000. He would vote for the Bill.

Mr. WETMORE said the Common Council had sent this Bill up to the House and they had no right to reject it without sufficient cause. The Corporation would not take stock in it if they thought it was likely to prove a bogus company.

The Bill was then agreed to, after which some Bills were introduced, and the House adjourned to meet at 10 A.M. to-morrow.

T. F. D.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13.

MORNING SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 10 A. M.

After the reading of a number of Bills for the third time,

Mr. GILBERT moved the House into Committee of the whole on a Bill to make and provide better provision for the deposit of ballots at general elections. Mr. Lindsay in the Chair.

Mr. GILBERT said the ballot system had now been in operation for two years, but it was notorious that the voter was not sufficiently protected in his approach to the ballot box. A canvasser could take hold of a man and take him to the ballot box, and compel him to vote as he wished, even though he had his ballot in his pocket to deposit for another candidate. No man should be allowed to control the action of an elector. Some hon. members might think the Bill did not