

He should like to know what the Government had done.

ATTORNEY GENERAL thought that the information he (Mr. Connell) had received was incorrect; he had informed the members of Carleton that there were five hundred rifles and ten thousand rounds of ball ammunition in the County. The Government could not help people selling out their property; they could not prevent that. It might be that some people got up an alarm designedly in order to make a speculation. The Government were doing every thing they could. They had directed a communication to the Commissioners to have night watchmen on the Railway, and directions had been given to have watchmen on the St. Andrew's Road. The Government were heartily co-operating with the Lieutenant Governor, who was in communication with Col. Cole, and also in communication with the Volunteer Officers on the border.

MR. CONNELL—He did not rise for the purpose of giving alarm, but he did think he should have positive knowledge of what the Government were doing. In Woodstock there were only some thirty or forty volunteers. He could only say that a gentleman in the County had told him that no preparations had been made at all.

MR. FISHER—The Government had the best means of knowing. He would do his utmost to support any measure of defence they might adopt. He was prepared to give them the simplest powers to raise men and expend money.

MR. HATHEWAY said, two hours before Mr. Connell had risen to ask that question, he had received a telegram from the press of Woodstock, and in it there was not a single word about alarm or about Fenianism.

MR. FISHER could not agree with his hon. colleague that there was no alarm. He had received a telegram which informed him that all along the line of the Saint Andrews Railway there was great alarm.

MR. ANGLIN—There was no doubt that there was great alarm now, and he entirely agreed with the remark of the hon. member of York. If the Government wanted more power, he would give it them. He would give them all the resources of the Province, if necessary, but he would expect them to exercise a careful and prudent economy. The Attorney General had told them that there were five hundred rifles in Carleton; if there were five hundred men in Carleton to handle them, what force could cross the border that that body of men could not resist? A great body could not be moved for the purpose of attack without all the world knowing it, and people ought to remember that the Province could not be invaded suddenly by a large force. He did not believe that the movement would attain any importance, nor did he think the Province was much exposed to attack, for it had no direct line of communication with the States. Still, a show of attack might be made. But if a small body—and it could only be a small body, did come in, they would be met. As he said, he would give the Government, if they required it, more power. He would give them power to muster men and compel men to serve.

At three o'clock, His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, came down to the Council Chamber and gave his assent to the Export Duty Bill.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL (on resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the Address), said that the Bill just assented to by His Excellency would remove the ground of complaint that had been preferred against the Government. Ever since the time that the error had been discovered, it had given the Government a great deal of trouble. The first time they had a knowledge of the neglect was in the month of September, but they did not think it would have been right to have summoned the Legislature at a time when the navigation was open, and when it would have been most inopportune for the business of the country. They thought that it would be better to wait until the opening of the Legislature, and remove the difficulty then. The House would agree that the Government had acted prudently, and he did not think that any injury had been done to the country. He could not but regret what he had said yesterday and the day before, that the present was not the time to shake the confidence of the country in the Government, to keep up a political agitation, and make changes in the Constitution. But from the information they had received, that boded no good to the Province, he thought the time had arrived when it behooved them to forget party and political differences, and look to the safety and interests of the country. Within the last few days, telegrams had been received sufficient to excite fear in the country, and he thought the time had arrived when this Legislature should be united, and they should all be prepared to meet aggression. He did not think any observations he could make would have any influence in changing the minds of hon. members. The discussion must take its course. But he put it to the House, and to the country, if this was the time, when the country was agitated with fears of a hostile aggression, to press a vote of want of confidence. The hon. member (Mr. Fisher) had been premature in moving his amendment. Before condemning the Government for the Railway contract, he should have waited for more information. He certainly had been premature in speaking about the Railway contract. The country, he (Attorney General) thought, had heard of a grand scheme for gridironing the Province with Railways, without burdening the country, that the member of York had in his head. If that hon. member was sincere in his wish to advance the interests of the Province, if he thought he had a better way of building railways than the Government had, he should, if prepared with his scheme, have come down. With regard to the contract entered into, he would suppose that the testimony of the two Nova Scotian gentlemen—both of them afterwards would have some weight with the member of York—the testimony of these gentlemen would show what truth there was in the statement made that a delegation was unnecessary, that all the Government had done in the matter they might have accomplished by writing a letter at the expense of a shilling. The other statements—(Here Attorney General quoted from the Report of the Nova Scotia Delegates.) There was the testimony of the two Nova Scotian gentlemen who had gone to England with Mr. Allen and himself. It showed that the matter would not have been accomplished without a joint delegation. It proved that the Legislature had been reciprocal. The bargain that this Pro-

vince had made with the Company was much better than that made by Nova Scotia. And he would say that but for the advantages offered by Nova Scotia, the mining privileges, the giving of fifty miles of wilderness land, we could not have treated with the Company at all. Nova Scotia had also agreed to allow certain articles needed for the construction of the Railway to come in free of duty, and had provided for the right of way. The Nova Scotia delegates said to Mr. Allen and himself: We give more than you did; you ought to give something more. But we stated that the Government only authorized us to give \$10,000 a mile. He (Attorney General) thought that a contract most highly advantageous to the country had been entered into.

MR. WETMORE—Who paid the right of way through this Province?

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL—The Company; but on representations from them of the privileges Nova Scotia had ceded, we agreed to pay the price of land in excess of £50 an acre. Everything else connected with regard to the contract had been done consistently with law and legislation, and yet it had been put on the United front when he was absent in the United States that no contract had been made at all; that it was simply a pure fabrication to help me to run my election in my County. Would any one believe that these Nova Scotian gentlemen, whose testimony he had read, would have gone simply to enable me to be returned? Yet a paper in St. John had said that the whole affair was a bogus transaction. It had been asked had any gentleman seen the contract? And it had gone forth throughout the country that he had perpetrated a base, do liberate fraud.

(Mr. Wetmore.—What paper did the Attorney General allude to?)

It need not signify what was the name of the paper. The Government had sustained abuse and vilification not only through the agency of the press, but lecturers had gone through the length and breadth of the country distilling poison in the ears of the people. The Government were prepared to take the consequences of the arrangement that they had made; but he put it to the House, he put it to the country, if it was fair that they should be subject to those insidious attacks, which could only be prompted by feelings of the deepest malignity. With regard to Western Extension, he hoped that the work would be constructed as speedily as possible; but if the Company failed, he, for one, was willing to undertake it as a Government work, but he hoped that that would not be necessary. He thought, as far as Railway matters were concerned, the House would justify the course of the Government, and he could not but think that Mr. de la Roche, Allen and he himself had done the country a substantial benefit by the Eastern Extension Railway contract. It was objected by the mover of the amendment that the Government had failed to fill up the office of Auditor General; and he thought he had got the Government into a fix. He (Mr. F.) had spoken a great deal about the Auditor General—as a Crown officer, and of his powers under the Constitution—all very wild of the mark. In fact, he knew nothing about what he was talking. He would say that on the formation of the Administration, there was one member not now in the Government who