

Province, throwing out poisonous insinuations against the Government. It was proclaimed all over the country that the Government was under Roman Catholic influence; that Anglin, the traitor, was its dictator. It was said that if the electors would save the country, and tear the reins of power out of the hands of disloyal men, they must vote for Fisher, the staunch loyalist, the old boy—vote for Fisher and save the country—vote for Fisher and the British Constitution, British Law, British Nationality, and British Christianity! He would not tell how many men during the excitement of the election were led in the back settlements, or what other influences were brought to bear. Every effort was made to prejudice him (Mr. H.) in the mind of the country. It was said that Smith ruled the Government, and that Smith was hostile to York, and Hatheway was powerless—the interests of the County was suffering in his hands. He had not the ability of his hon. and learned friend (Attorney General), but he was quite able to face him whenever the interests of his County were concerned. One of the canvasses during the election was that the Government intended to remove the Post Office Department from Fredericton, and that was the first step towards the removal of the seat of Government; and the cry was raised, if the County was to be saved, and the Seat of Government secured, they must elect Fisher, for he was the only man that could face Smith on the floors of the House. He thought the hon. member for Restigouche had handled the sale of the Gibson lands very cautiously; he did not wonder that his colleague (Mr. F.) had done so. But they did not dare to condemn the Government for that transaction; they knew the Government were only carrying out the acts of their predecessors. The member of Restigouche knew that, had the late Government remained in power, they would have rescinded the regulation. He thought that was what the hon. member said. (Mr. McMillan.)—He said, if there was no prospect of the Inter-Colonial Railway, there would be no need of the regulation. Just so. Mr. Hatheway then proceeded to speak of the influences that had been brought to bear during the first election in York. What were the arguments that his colleague, (Mr. F.) when he went lecturing through the back settlements, had put forth in his canvass? First, if York would secure the seat of Government, it must go for Confederation; and secondly, if York wanted to get the Inter-Colonial Railway by the Valley of the Keswick, it must go for the Quebec Scheme. At one of these meetings he had met his hon. colleague, (Mr. F.) and put to him the question, would he go for Confederation if the Railway went by the North Shore. Well, he said he would not. He (Mr. F.) told the people that the Railway would go by the Keswick Valley, and Mr. Fleming, the Canadian Surveyor's Report would soon be out, confirming his statement. Let them refer to the law and the testimony, let them refer to Fleming's report [here the hon. member referred at great length to Fleming's report, reading several extracts concerning the various routes to show that the Central line fixed upon by the members of York. (Mr. F.) was the longest and would be the most expensive in construction, and would cost £600,000 more than other routes.] would the hon. member after

what Mr. Fleming said about the Central line succeed in gulling the people as he had done, that the Railway would go by it. The hon. member (Mr. Fisher) had during the time of the election the line absolutely staked out, and he told the electors that he had induced the Canadian Government to order that the survey to be made along the Keswick Valley.

Mr. FISHER said he had written to the Canadian Government asking them to order a survey of the Central route, and he had no doubt that it was through his urgent endeavours that the survey came to be made.

Hon. Mr. HATHWAY proceeded to say that it was astonishing that with all his knowledge, all his reputation as a constitutional lawyer that the name of Fisher was never mentioned in Canada, while the names of Smith, and Tilley and Gray were familiar in their mouths, the name of Fisher was never heard. He was astonished when he looked over the map accompanying Fleming's report to find that whilst there was a line laid down that was denominated the Mitchell line, it showed no Fisher line. The inter-colonial railway had always been held forth as the great boon New Brunswick would get by Confederation, but he doubted if it was looked upon with much favor in Canada. Would any one tell him that Galt the great finance minister of Canada who possessed immense property in the City of Portland, and had held a large amount of stock in the Railway, was in favor of a Railway through New Brunswick! They might try to delude the people that he was in favor of it, but that would not go down with him. In fact that there was little feeling in Canada in favor of the Intercolonial, and he was of opinion that the feeling on the whole was decidedly against it.

Hon. Mr. Hatheway proceeded to speak to another charge against the Government with reference to the appointment of Judge Ritchie over Judge Wilnot. He would say very little about it. But he well remembered at the opening of the Court in Fredericton, seeing Judge Wilnot occupying the seat of his honor his speaker. Never in his life had he seen the hall where the hon. members were now assembled so crowded as on that occasion, for it was well known in Fredericton, that the Judge would deliver a harangue. He doubted much the right of a Judge to deliver from the bench at a time when political feeling was rising high, such an address as Judge Wilnot did. It might be said by some that he (Judge W.) had a right to speak on a subject that was agitating the minds of the people; but when the words caught his ears that if it was necessary to carry the scheme, he would come down from the bench, he thought that statement Judge Wilnot had no right to make, and he justified the appointment of Judge Ritchie on the ground of that same harangue. When they heard the opinion of Chief Justice Robert Parker, and knew that he advised the Government to appoint Judge Ritchie, the mouths of those who had murmured because they thought Judge Wilnot had been superseded ought to be closed.

Mr. CONNELL, he would like to hear the letter of Chief Justice Parker read.

Mr. FRASER—The hon. member of Carleton had better apply to the hon.

member of St. John, Mr. Wetmore. He (Mr. F.) gave him as an authority. Mr. WETMORE—What did his hon. friend (Mr. Fraser) say?

Mr. FRASER—He said he gave the hon. member of St. John, (Mr. Wetmore) as his authority for the statement that Judge Robert Parker would not have accepted the office of Chief Justice, if he had not known Judge Ritchie would succeed him.

Mr. WETMORE—What could his hon. friend (Mr. F.) mean? He most positively and distinctly denied that he ever made such statement.

Hon. Mr. HATHWAY proceeded to speak of the course his colleague, Mr. Fisher, had pursued against him during the election of York. He called to his recollection the many occasions he had befriended him in his political trouble; he had always been his friend; he well knew his friendship for him; he knew the position he (Mr. Hatheway) was placed in about the time of the election—lying sick in bed attended by two medical men, and he knew that \$300 were offered to one of these medical men to keep him lying on the broad of his back. (Mr. Fisher.—He knew nothing of the kind.) One would think he (Mr. Fisher) did know; when he was lying in this condition, he made a public speech in the Temperance Hall, in Fredericton, that was calculated to harrow up the innermost feelings of those most nearly related to him, and it was a most remarkable fact that two copies of the *Reporter*, containing the report of the speech, were directed to his wife. He charged it home to him that he knew that; hon. members knew that Mr. Fisher was in the habit of saying that after political discussion he went home to his family, and forgot all the angry feelings that had been engendered, and he prayed upon his knees for forgiveness to his enemies. But when he thought of that, the words of his supplication ought to have been in the words of the first prayer in the Litany: "From all blindness of heart, from pride, vain glory and hypocrisy, from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, deliver me." (Mr. Fisher.—He denied that he knew the papers to have been sent, and said that the language he had used in his speech was justified by the strong language uttered by Mr. Hatheway against himself.) The least Mr. Fisher ought to have done was, after the excitement of the occasion, to have gone to the office of the paper, and asked the editor not to put in the report of the speech of the offensive statements. To send the paper with that speech into a private family, was a low, mean, cowardly act, unworthy of the character of a man. Every influence had been brought to bear against him; heedless expressions in casual conversation had been caught up and turned against him. When in St. John he met that inflated little animal, Johnny Boyd, (he knew he was not here to defend himself) Boyd said to him, "You cannot resist the British Government; they will oblige you to take the Quebec Scheme," (words to that effect) and he answered hastily, "The British Government may go to the devil, or some hotter place, and on the strength of that heedless expression, he had been accused of disloyalty. He respected the British Government, but he thought that on a question that so nearly affected their own interests the people of the Province were the best judges."