

the municipal affairs of the country. He had presided as Warden over the county of the largest population in the country; and he should endeavour to discharge his duties here in the same spirit as had secured for him the confidence of the people he had lived amongst. They had come here to do a certain duty, and he hoped they would do it honourably. He would deal with every measure fairly on its own merits, as it came up. He had been sorry to hear a cry for aid already in this debate. Gravel roads, it appeared, were wanted in Hastings. If the gold there was so precious, the people would have means to make their own gravel roads. In Huron, they had discovered the finest salt in the world; and, when they wanted gravel roads, they put their hands in their pockets and made them themselves. When the house came to deal with municipal matters, he hoped he would be of some assistance. The County Councils were nurseries for producing men that would be useful here. He would not give the Government any factious opposition, and trusted the measures that would be submitted would be of a character which he could support. We had got a country second to none. All it wanted was developing; and he would do all in his power to promote its peace and prosperity. He was glad to see the prospect of opening up the North-west, and hoped the Crown lands within the Province would be managed better than they had been heretofore. The first thing the Commissioner should do was to get rid of three-fourths of the hangers-on, who did more to lead people astray than to provide lands for them. He did not approve of the plan of the Government undertaking to clear lands for settlers. The best parties to clear them were the settlers themselves. After a man could show that he had cleared twenty acres in five years, he thought the Government should then give him his patent to the lot for \$20.

Mr. COYNE said he had not intended that the Government should as a general thing undertake the clearing of lands, but that it should be tried as an experiment on twenty or thirty lots in a township, and that the settler should afterwards, when he was able, pay for the improvements.

Mr. GIBBONS then referred to the Municipal Loan Fund, and pointed to the counties of Huron and Bruce as setting a noble example to the rest of the country, in not being indebted one cent to the Government at this moment. They had raised last year \$81,000 to meet their engagements, while this great county of York had only raised \$16,000, having never built a mile of gravel road at its own expense.

Mr. LYON, Carleton, was in favour of encouraging immigration, but thought the Government should be careful not to send parties into the woods, who knew nothing of how to reclaim the forest. Some system might be devised, by which immigrants should be engaged for a year or two with farmers in the country, before getting grants. As regarded his position in this House, he would repeat what he had stated in his address, that he was a Conservative, but that he would support the Government, until a necessity arose for drawing party lines. He looked upon the Coalition as a party in which had been merged the Reform and Conservative parties.

Mr. CRAIG (Glengarry) said he represented the county of his birth. It was a Reform county; but it had not sent him here to oppose the Government. That county, and other Reform counties, had confidence in the Premier, although he had taken in Conservatives with him to assist him in carrying on the Government. He believed if he had come out as an opponent of the Government, he would not have occupied the position he now did. He had worked his way up, as a humble, honest farmer, from the position of a township Councillor to that of Reeve, and Warden of the united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, and nothing had sent him here but his honest statement to the people that he would give this Government—Coalition though it