

here but his honest statement to the people that he would give this Government—Coalition though it was—a fair, hearty, impartial and liberal support. If the Government brought down the measures foreshadowed in this Address, he had no doubt they would be supported by a majority of this house, and at all events they should have his hearty and undivided support.

Mr. EVANS (East Middlesex), said he had no confidence in the patent combination, but he had great confidence in the Premier, and was disposed to trust him. He would wait to see him make one or two mistakes more, before he condemned him and would support any good measures the Government might bring down.

Mr. MATCHETT (South Victoria) said he had been elected by acclamation as a supporter of the Government, and he had as much confidence in all the other members of that Government as he had in the Premier.

Hon. Mr. McMURRICH said, although the hour was late, he wished to say a few words, as he had no desire to appear before this house or the country in any other than his true character—that of a Reformer. He had been somewhat surprised to hear his hon. friend from Bothwell taken to task on Friday for a very innocent and inoffensive reference to Reform principles, while the very gentleman who took him to task, himself used very freely the term Clear Grit in regard to Reformers. If they were to understand by that term, men of extreme political views, he thought there were Clear Grits to be found among Conservatives as well as Reformers. But if by Clear Grit was to be understood a real, sound Reformer, he must say he preferred the real article to any half-and-half combination or mixture; and he should be sorry, he should blush to be considered anything else than a Reformer. (Hear, hear). He was not so by accident, but by conviction. A long acquaintance with the Attorney-General and a cordial co-operation and support in days gone by drew his sympathies very strongly across the house. He still thought his hon. friend was a good, sound Reformer, although he believed he had made a mistake in this instance, in the way in which he had formed his Government. He (Mr. McMurrich) preferred party Government as the best, and the most honest, fair and economical that we could have. He had no desire to see the Premier driven from his post, but he had a strong desire to see his Government all of one stripe. He would not give the Government any factious opposition, but should judge the measures that might be brought down upon their merits. As regarded the Address now before the house, he must say that it did not appear to him to bear the stamp of a combination. He looked upon it as a sound, Reform Address—he might almost say a Clear Grit Address. (Hear, hear). He was glad to find the Government coming out fairly and squarely on the subject of economy, and he should endeavour to keep them to their text in that respect. Partly in that connection, he would suggest that this was a proper time for doing away with the sectarian grant against which Reformers had long contended. Every denomination should support its own theological institutions, and it was very wrong in principle to have it otherwise. (Hear, hear).