

think that the remarks made by the hon. member for South Bruce (Mr. Blake) would warrant any such conclusion on the part of Quebec. With regard to the surplus, the Government were entitled to no great credit for it. The surplus was due to the arrangement of the founders of the Confederation. He was willing to give the Government the credit to which it was entitled, but not more. In the disposal of the surplus he was willing to give them all the assistance in his power if they brought forward a scheme of which he approved. He hoped the Government would endeavour to get out the proper class of immigrants. We wanted a healthier immigration than we now had—men who would settle in the country and reclaim our forests. We did not want men whom we had to feed. Men such as this had been seen in London lately, and who would not chop wood at a liberal rate per cord. (Hear, hear.) The farmers in the London and Westminster district were alluring their sons to leave the country. But if our land laws were different this would not be the case. The farmers would give their sons five hundred dollars in their pocket to take up farms in Muskoka, for example, if our laws were different; but they would not do so if the Government had a right to sweep every stick of valuable timber off the lands. Not long ago a farmer in his district had sold his farm for \$7,000, and gone to the United States, where he and his sons could be free men and have a perfect title to their lands. He had heard that in the county represented by the Speaker, there were 4,000 farmers who had no titles to their lands. In respect to a land policy, the Government did not come up to the genius and spirit of our people; and did not pursue a policy calculated to keep our farmer's sons in the country. The Government should give the country a land scheme worthy of the genius of this western province, and attract immigration to it. As to the paragraph in the speech relating to party, he would say there was a necessity for party. If he had a Government contract or commissionership in his pocket, he could not tell his constituents that he could give a free vote. If he did so, no honest man under heaven would believe him. He did not believe we could do without party; and for his part he would not give a vote as if he had the deeds of eleven square miles of timber limits in his pocket, or a trusteeship or an appointment as an arbitrator.

Hon. Mr. CARLING replied to the remarks of Mr. Evans, and referred to the statement last session by that hon. gentleman, in support of the hon. member for South Bruce's assertion, that the Lunatic Asylum was not being properly constructed. He also asserted that the dock on Muskoka Lake was being built of granite. With regard to the hon. member's observations as to the value of the land of the Muskoka district, he would only say that no less than fifty or sixty per cent of it was good agricultural land. He had seen Mr. Johnson, who came from the hon. member's district, and was now resident in the free grant district, and that gentleman stated that he was quite satisfied with the country, and had advised many settlers in the township of London to come there. He had visited the free grant district himself several times; he saw several settlers there, and they all told him that the quality of the land far exceeded their expectations. With regard to the immigration policy of the Government, it had been said that it was not liberal enough. He would tell them some of the things in this department that had been done by the Government. Last year 15,000 immigrants had settled in the different counties of Upper Canada, and this year there were over 20,000. He defended the action of the immigration agents in Great Britain and Ireland. There had been twenty-five lectures delivered in England, Ireland and Scotland, and these were printed in the papers having the largest circulation. Fourteen thousand placards had been put in the different post-offices in the British Islands, and advertisements had been inserted in the most suitable papers. A hundred thousand immigration pamphlets had been given to immigration agents, and Mr. Dixon had informed him the other day that 200,000 more would be required. As to the free grants, and the assertions as to the bad quality of the land, he might say that 139,000 acres had been taken up this year. He read a letter received from the Rev. Styleman Henning, speaking of the satisfaction of the English immigrants with their positions in Ontario, and with the advantages held out to them. He said he was quite sure that the policy of the Government since 1867 up to the present time had met the approval of the people of the Province. (Hear, hear, from Government benches.) The members of the Government did not hold office for the sake of the paltry salary, for they could make double the amount in their pri-

vate avocations. They held office because they had patriotic feelings, and were proud of the country and wished to build it up; and everything to advance the interests of the country that could be done, would be done. (Applause from Government benches.)

Mr. EVANS explained that he had not said that the land of the Muskoka district was not fit for settlement; but had argued that extra inducements should be offered to settlers in that district.

Hon. Mr. CARLING contended that greater advantages were offered in the Muskoka district than in the Western States.

Mr. BOYD said the statement of the hon. Minister of Public Works was to his mind a justification of the course the Opposition had pursued in previous sessions on the question of immigration. The Attorney-General on those occasions had retorted that no Government would perpetrate the policy suggested, but now they saw the hon. Commissioner of Public Works rise in his seat and claim credit for the very results of that system which his leader had at one time so strenuously condemned. When the Opposition claimed that there was land in the Province of Ontario fit for settlement, the Attorney-General retorted that it was not so; and the first man to send this idea abroad to England was the Commissioner of Public Works—the Hon. Wm. McDougall—in the Government of which the Attorney-General was a member, and which held office previous to the government by which Confederation was accomplished. The Opposition entreated the Government to undertake this work, and it would be in the recollection of every member of that House how reluctantly they undertook the task; and because of a combination of circumstances over which these gentlemen had no control and in no instance helped to bring about—an over-crowded labour market, the action of benevolent societies, &c.—there had been an immigration of

15,000 persons last year, and of 20,000 this year, they now came there and wished the House to accord them the praise. He was prepared to give them all they deserved.

Hon. Mr. WOOD rose to make an observation, amidst cries of "Order."

Mr. BOYD said the hon. gentleman seemed determined to interrupt every member, but he would tell him distinctly that both he (Mr. Boyd) and others of the Opposition did not intend to be interrupted in this manner, and that if the hon. gentleman had anything to say in reply to any remarks that might be offered, that he should say it at the proper time. (Hear, hear.) The hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands last night said he knew of no suggestions that had been offered by the members of the Opposition on the land policy of the Government. He would tell him some. In the first session, the hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. McKellar), suggested that the settlers should have the right to make mortar from the limestone, and the hon. gentleman, under the pressure of the House, gave the settler that right. Another suggestion was also made with regard to allowing the settler the right to use timber other than pine for firewood and other purposes, and this was also adopted. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Boyd then defended Mr. Blake from the attacks made on him, and said that he regarded the award of the arbitrators as a finality. He thought that substantial justice had been done to both of the Provinces. Confederation had given us the management of our local affairs, and had put three millions in the treasury, yet the Treasurer said that Ontario had gained nothing by confederation.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—I never said that.

Mr. BOYD said he quoted from the report of his speech the previous evening

Hon. Mr. WOOD—I said financially.

Mr. BOYD would merely inquire if this Province would have had three million dollars to its credit under the old system. When, in the old Province of Canada, did a Finance Minister come down and say that the Province of Ontario had three millions to its credit for local purposes? The Treasurer had been taking to himself every credit for accumulating this surplus. He (Mr. Boyd) was willing to accord to the Treasurer and the Government all the credit due to their position. The Government had been an economical one, but while he made this admission he could not accord them the praise of having been the originators of the scheme, the fruits of which were three millions of dollars. They were simply reapers of the fruits of other men's labours.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—If I had been Finance Minister of the old Province of Canada you would have had a surplus. (Laughter.)

Mr. BOYD said the observation just made by the Treasurer did not at all affect the

question. Last evening the Treasurer claimed credit for the labours of the Attorney-General in connection with the Reform party in past years. He (Mr. Boyd) would admit that, in many respects, the Attorney-General had served the party well; but, because he did so, that would not justify his conduct of to-day. No man could afford to live on the memory of the past, and what the Attorney-General did twenty years ago did not excuse him for the part he took as chief of the present administration; for he had done all he could to break down the prestige, and honour of his old party, and turned round and coalesced with those against whom he had waged a deadly and bitter warfare. He (Mr. Boyd) charged the Government in the name of the Opposition—he charged them in the name of what was true and honest in political life—he charged them in the name of the people of Ontario, with doing more to corrupt the public sentiment, and to sap the foundations of the right exercise of constitutional liberty, in the expression of public opinion, than any other previous administration, let it be Tory or Conservative. (Applause.) He was pleased with many expressions in the address, but he would like to know what was meant by the words "injurious dissensions." (Hear, hear.) If they meant that we were not to have discussion or opposition, he would like to know the fact. That there had been any injurious dissensions he denied; and he felt it was dishonouring to this body that his Excellency should have had put into his mouth words of this character. Were there dissensions on the Mineral Bill? There was opposition, indeed, and it proved to be right, for the Commissioner of Crown Lands was glad, next session, to have the chance of killing his own child. Was it dissension for the Opposition to make suggestions with regard to the free grants, which the Commissioner of Crown Lands accepted? Was it dissension when the Opposition objected to a measure which the Attorney-General of England afterwards pronounced to be illegal? (Hear, hear.) Was it dissension last session, in the case of the bill to increase the salaries of the judges, a measure which was afterwards disallowed? If ever an attempt were made to interfere with free thought, and with the functions of a constitutional opposition, if there was ever a more deadly blow aimed at the expression of opinion, than the honour of it belonged to the first administration of the first Local Government of Ontario. (Hear, hear.) But the attempt would fail, as it deserved to fail. (Applause.) He (Mr. Boyd) would not oppose a measure simply because it owed its paternity to the Government, but he would criticise all their actions, as he had done heretofore, in spite of the words that had been put into the mouth of the Lieutenant-Governor. There would be a time next summer when the actions of every member of the House would be brought to the bar of public opinion, and when the people of the country would be the jury, and all that he would ask of the gentleman opposite was not to bribe the jury. (Loud applause.)

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said that the meaning of the words "injurious dissensions" was that we should not have any unnecessary and unseemly party strife, when it was the duty of every right thinking man to advance the interests of the country. He (Mr. Cameron) had been charged with having opposed Confederation, and it was argued that because the Attorney-General and the Commissioner of Crown Lands did the same thing, therefore they were not the proper men to be entrusted with the Government of the country. He opposed Confederation, because he thought—and he hoped that hon. gentlemen would give him credit for honesty—that it was not the best kind of union for the interests of the country. He also said that it was not possible to have the separate governments at the same expense as they could have one. He saw that it was necessary that the people should be united in heart and soul with an honest determination of doing that which was just and right, fearless of consequences, and sinking party as unjust, holding the interests of the country as prior to those of mere party. If that was an improper way to look at the matter, he admitted that he had committed an error. As he however opposed Confederation honestly, when it became a fixed fact, instead of factiously opposing it, he at once gave in his adhesion to the scheme. It was his duty to do his best to carry out the scheme, and he thought that the praise which had been accorded to the Government already was a sufficient evidence that he and his colleagues had endeavoured to do what was best for the interests of the coun-