

\$50,000. The Treasurer had stated there were \$3,100,000 laid up. He (Mr. Lyon) would ask were the people to be turned out to starve rather than that a constitutional principle should be broken?

Mr. BLAKE—Hear, hear.

Mr. LYON said that if the Government, when they came down with the estimates, should make no provision for the Ottawa sufferers, and if the Opposition did not bring in a vote of censure, he would do so. The Government would be turned out on that vote; and they would be defeated if they went to the country on it. But if they were defeated they could not accuse him, for he had generously supported them, and would do so still; but he could not face his constituents on this question. He was sorry the Attorney-General—who, as he understood, was sick—was not now in his place to explain his action in this matter. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. BAXTER said since he had been in the House he had given an independent support to the Ministry. If such a disaster as that referred to by Mr. Lyon had occurred in the district he represented, he should have gone to the Premier as a matter of right; but if the Ministry opened their coffers and rendered assistance to the sufferers, they must do so on the principle of justice. Defining his position, he had voted on principles which he felt sure the country would sustain. Immigration demanded liberal dealing at the hands of the Government; and the exertions put forth in bringing the agricultural class of immigrants to this country should be extended. He thought the country required some amendments to the Grammar School system, and he hoped that the bill might escape the fearful treatment it received last year.

Dr. BOULTER was gratified at the speech but would not commit himself to any point until he saw the bills. It was satisfactory that they were now in a position to know what their actual state was. He believed that the establishment of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum was but an act of justice to that part of Province, and would support any amendment of the School Law which would benefit the country. Under this head he advocated the teaching of the rudiments of agriculture, &c. With regard to the Controverted Elections Bill, he would accept a bill from the Ministry rather than from the Opposition. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member, after reading some extracts from THE GLOBE of 1853, said he hoped that something would be done in the estimates for the Ottawa sufferers. Of course it was not necessary to put everything in the address that the Government intended to do.

Mr. TETT said he would have been better pleased with the speech if a reference had been made in it to the Ottawa devastation. He thought it would have been creditable to the Government to have suggested to His Excellency to mention the sympathy which he must have felt for the unfortunate sufferers. The devastation extended over a district of some eighty miles, and the sufferings of the people in his district were terrible, and were beyond the power of any language he could command. He was happy to see a disposition in hon. members on both sides to extend sympathy to the sufferers, and hoped to see at least a sum of \$50,000 placed in the estimates for their aid.

Mr. COCKBURN could not agree that the Free Grant Act was perfection. The provision that the settlers should pay the current price on their timber when they used it for building purposes, while they had liberty to burn it, was at least invidious. He was in favour of railway grants, and having supported the hon. member for South Bruce's Bill last session, he was glad to see that it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill for the trial of Controverted Elections. He had been referred to by Mr. Blake at the demonstration at the Music Hall, and he wished to defend himself. He denied that he had ever asked or received a favour from the Government either for himself or his friends; that when he was elected he was not pledged to support the Ministry nor to vote with the Opposition; and that the letter referred to in the speech was written in explanation of a confidential remark he had made to some hon. members in the House, and it then only referred to the estimates. Immediately after the conclusion of the estimates, he had voted against the Government on the Dower Bill introduced by the member for South Bruce. He might have committed errors of judgment and not of heart. Since the last session, he had not seen Mr. Blake, and had only called at the Attorney-General's office twice.

Mr. BLAKE said he had never stated, publicly or privately, that he had any reason to believe that he (Mr. Cockburn) was seeking to obtain any personal advantage; but he did charge him with having laid down a false principle of public morality in the letter to which he referred.

Mr. GRAHAME (York) said that he generally approved of the speech. He considered it unfair, however, that in some of the older settled portions of the country settlers should have to pay in full for their lands, while settlers in the new territories were getting their lands free. He thought the remarks of the hon. member for South Bruce with reference to the arbitration were somewhat unfortunate, and that the hon. Treasurer was entitled to credit for his exertions. In his opinion, a portion of the surplus could be advantageously employed in aiding railways, and in increased grants towards aiding immigration. (Hear.)

Mr. CARLING (Huron) was in favour of railway grants; and thought that some portion should be given to the districts inhabited by those pioneers who had borne the burden of the day. He was quite willing to leave the matter in the hands of the Government. He was an earnest advocate for the new Election Law. He had been himself a victim of the old law, having been kept out of his seat two years by its dilatory action, and consequently would support the Government in the introducing a new Bill for dealing with controverted elections. He thought his constituency would approve of his conduct.

Mr. MURRAY considered that the Ottawa district had been somewhat neglected, and he hoped it would receive attention. He trusted that the municipal loan funds would be distributed at an early period, since many municipalities were wanting the assistance of the fund. He thought that those members who opposed the Government stood in their own light. (Laughter.)

Mr. MATCHETT regretted the personal character of the debate. He had always supported the Government.

Mr. CROSBY regretted that there was no reference in the address to a timber policy. It was one of the most important questions they had to deal with. The licence being granted for one year only, there was not that attention paid to the preservation of timber that was desirable. He had seen more direct adherence to party on the other side of the House, although every Conservative member, on rising, expressed his anxiety to get rid of party. He had promised to give the Government a fair trial; but in the first session they brought down a free grant policy, which showed at once so close a policy on the part of the Government that he was compelled to support the more liberal propositions of the Opposition. (Hear.)

Mr. CURRIE entered into some explanations with regard to the completion of confederation, contending that the Attorney-General was justified in forming his Cabinet in the manner he had. He also applauded the action of the Commissioners of Public Works and Crown Lands, in personally visiting various parts of the country. After referring to the free grant districts, he considered it unfortunate that the hon. members for Lambton and South Bruce had stated their conviction that it was advisable even to strain a point to keep up party. He was not altogether in favour of the grants to railways; he thought that a part of the surplus could be well applied to granting additional subsidies to common and grammar schools, and to the agricultural societies of the country. He also suggested to the Government that the statutes should be distributed free to the municipal officers; and that the *Journal of Education* should be discontinued. He was in favour of a more vigorous immigration policy.

Mr. REED supported the policy of the Government as a whole, and was in favour of opening up the back country by means of railways.

Mr. CRAIG (Glengarry) did not think it was right that the Government should expend all of the large surplus in the new districts. The older sections that had contributed their share to this surplus had a right to their share in its distribution. He considered that the Government had acted rightly in stipulating that the timber should be preserved in free grant lands. If the timber were to be given to the settlers, there would be a rush to these lands by people not intending to settle, and who, as soon as the timber was cut down, would leave. He thought that our young men made a great mistake in leaving for the United States. In his own country he knew those who had to send money to the States to bring home their young men. There was every inducement for our young men to remain in Canada, and they had every opportunity for self-advancement. (Hear, hear.) He hoped the Government would not expend all the surplus on the new districts, but distribute it in the eastern parts of the province as well. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. McCALL (Elgin) argued that the Opposition could lay no claim to the accumulation of the surplus. As there was such a large surplus, he thought the Government could not do better than apportion some of it to the different agricultural societies for the purpose of importing improved stock. (Hear.)

Mr. CARNEGIE rose, amid cries of "Question, question." He said he desired, as the mover of the address, to say a few words in reply to what had fallen from the speakers on the Opposition side. He then proceeded to reply, at some length, to remarks personal to himself interspersed through several speeches in the course of the debate.

Hon. Mr. RICHARDS made some explanations with regard to the amendments of the Free Grant Bill, suggested by the hon. member for Prescott (Mr. Boyd), which were adopted by the House.

After a few words from Mr. Boyd, the clause was adopted.

Formal notices for the engrossment and presentation of the address were then carried.

The House adjourned at 11.40 p.m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following notices of motion have been given:—

Mr. Hays.—Whether surveys have been made, and if so what surveys, on the north shore of Lake Superior; also, the terms on which the lands, mineral or agricultural, are to be sold? When said lands will be open for sale, and if any map has been procured of the region near Silver Island or said shore?

Mr. Boyd.—Address for copies of report of the commissioners (if any) who may have visited, in the United States or elsewhere, institutions having for their object agricultural, mechanical, manufacturing, and mining education.

Mr. Boyd.—Whether it be true that J. B. McLellan, Esq., law partner of the Attorney-General, has been appointed to the office of county attorney and Clerk of the Peace for the united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, in the room of James Bethune, Esq., resigned.

Mr. Sinclair.—Whether it is the intention of the Government to place a sum in the estimates for the improvement of the commercial harbours of the Province, or of any of them.

Mr. Carnegie.—Bill to amend the Law Reform Act of 1861; also, a Bill to amend and consolidate the Acts relating to Mutual Insurance Companies in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Blake.—That this House will on next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the following resolutions:—

Resolved—1. That justice requires that every subject should contribute in due proportion to his means to the expenses of that Municipal Government of which he receives the benefit.

2. That the Assessment Act should be amended by striking out the exemptions from taxation therein contained in favour of certain classes of subjects.