

to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, embodying the foregoing resolution, and praying him to take such steps as may be best calculated to further its views.

He said the Lieut.-Governor's speech of this session had made no allusion to the settlement of the Red River region, which had been advocated on previous occasions. He thought this silence was owing to the deplorable events that had taken place there, and culminated in the deplorable tragedy which his resolutions referred to. The Red River had been ruled after a sort of fashion by the Hudson's Bay Company, and the only means of transacting any business there was through the Company's officials. The change that had been proposed—that the Company's territory should become part of the Dominion—was necessarily disagreeable to many of the inhabitants of that region, and to all the employees of the Company, who, he believed, had largely influenced public opinion and supplied the people with arguments against the transfer. Unfortunately too much ground was given for these arguments. Had a charter of freedom and rights been given to the people, instead of putting the whole power into the hands of the Government, and making them vassals, the unfortunate events referred to would not have occurred. But by the action, or inaction, of the Government, and by the influence of the Hudson Bay officials, the people had been driven to resist the authorities appointed by the Dominion Government. It had been said that the insurrection was largely due to Romish influence, but he did not believe that at all, and he had too high an opinion of the Roman Catholics of this country, and of their patriotism, to harbor the idea for a moment. He believed that they denounced with as much horror as he did the murder of Scott. It had also been said that it was intended to make the Province a French Province, and Mr. Riel a French hero. He had no desire to see Manitoba become an Ontario province or an English province; but he hoped that much of the emigration from Lower Canada would be turned in that direction, and that the territory would be thrown open to the world. He would not discuss the measure of last session; but he regarded it for many reasons with unqualified disapprobation. There had been some cause for dissatisfaction in that Province, although he could not go so far as Dr. Tupper—but he did not think that the murder of Thomas Scott could be classed among the political offences. The hon. gentleman then read Mr. Donald Smith's official report of the murder. There was also the evidence of other eye-witnesses of the crime. It is one of our people that Riel has slain, and it devolves on us that justice should be vindicated. At the present time we hear of Riel being requested to stand for the Parliament of Canada, and unless this country speaks out, we may have the humiliation of seeing a murderer taking his seat in our Legislative Assembly. This was no ordinary murder for the sake of robbery or to gratify revenge, but a cold-blooded murder, heightened in horror by the solemn mockery of a farcial trial. Scott died for his loyalty to his Queen and country, and that his was not an ordinary murder, is proved from the intense excitement that existed throughout this country when the news of it arrived. We had been asked to congratulate the Governor-General on his blood being enobled, and the House had done so; but the joy at that was nothing to the sorrow of the entire country on the spilling of the blood of Scott, and if it was the duty of the country to express gladness at the one event, it was their duty to express their horror at the other. To Scott's kinsfolk has been denied the comfort of giving a decent sepulchre to his ashes, and it behoved this House to record his epitaph, to express the people's grief at his horrible end and to express the people's stern resolve that his death should be vindicated.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said he had, no doubt in common with the rest of the assembly, felt very much delighted at the eloquent remarks made by the hon. member for South Bruce in introducing this subject for the consideration of the House. While he accorded to that hon. gentleman the credit that he always deserved for the manner in which he placed anything before the House, he at the same time could not help thinking that he had adopted a most injudicious course in introducing this subject for our consideration at this time. He was at a loss to understand why it should have been introduced. If the hon. gentleman meant by the resolution to pass a censure upon the Government of Ontario because it had not taken means for the purpose of obtaining the extradition of Riel, it would have been better if he had so framed his resolution at once. The offence that has been committed beyond the jurisdiction of Ontario. Ontario had no province to deal with; it was not the duty of Ontario to deal with it, nor was it the duty of Ontario to determine as matter of fact whether the offence that has been committed is one of a political character or is a cold, blood-thirsty deliberate murder. When this man Riel and his associates were in arms against the British Crown they were not in arms against the Province of Ontario but against Her Majesty the Queen. The people of Ontario were not backward in their desire and determination to assert the supremacy of the British Crown over every portion of British America—(Hear, hear).—Meetings were held through the length and breadth of the land. He had himself the honour of attending a meeting in the City of Toronto where public expression was given to the feelings of outrage experienced by the people of this Province in consequence of the course that had been pursued in the now Province of Manitoba. But the hon. gentleman thought perhaps that it was his special obligation and province to censure the Government at Ottawa on every occasion that was presented to him, and he could not allow any occasion to pass without so doing, and therefore, he had treated this House, on this occasion, to a review of the legislation in reference to Manitoba; and he began that

review by almost justifying the course that this man Riel pursued, and then almost immediately afterwards, most inconsistently denounced the man as a murderer of the blackest description. If the Government of Canada was to blame, if the Government of Canada justified the arising of the people of Manitoba, then Riel was acting in defence of political rights, and his (Cameron's) hon. friend was doing wrong to charge him with being a murderer. But he (Cameron) assumed that the Government of the Dominion acted in this, as in other matters, prudently and judiciously and acted perhaps very much more judiciously than his hon. friend and those associated with him would have done under circumstances similarly trying, and however much he must regret the act of Riel as a cold blooded and deliberate murder—(hear, hear)—he was not of opinion that his hon. friend was doing well now to introduce the matter for the consideration of the House. To what end was it? Had he ever taken the trouble fairly to consider whether this man Riel could be extradited. Had he ever thought whether the Government of the United States would consider his offence as a political offence or as a crime within the provisions of the Ashburton treaty? The provisions of the treaty he (Cameron) presumed his hon. friend would understand, as far as Ontario has control of them, only extend to the relationship extending between the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and the United States. Our law only extends to offences against the Provinces here and Quebec, and we should have no power nor authority to demand the extradition of this man Riel for the offence committed in Manitoba or the Red River territory. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend had said that no charter of rights was given to the people of Manitoba, and in consequence of no charter of right having been given to them that they were justified.

Mr. BLAKE—No.
Hon. Mr. CAMERON—Not justified! Almost justified! That's what you said. (Hear, hear.) It is hard to draw the line. Justified in what?

Mr. BLAKE—Justified in being dissatisfied.
Mr. CAMERON—Justified in being dissatisfied! If the hon. gentleman meant no more than that they were justified in being dissatisfied, he apprehended that he could not justify in any degree the action that was being pursued. He had taken occasion to say, and he (Cameron) was glad to hear it, for he was desirous that no religious element of discord should be introduced into this Legislature or Province in any way, that it was not with the view of any Roman Catholic aggrandisement, so to speak, that this rebellion was promoted or originated. His hon. friend, however, had more doubt as to whether there was not in the part of the French to obtain control of that territory. He would have almost hoped that the same degree of caution which induced his hon. friend to say that he would not apprehend that any Roman Catholic element entered into the disturbance would have induced him to say that he did not believe that it was fostered or encouraged by the French people of Lower Canada. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Cameron) sincerely hoped that it was not so encouraged.

Mr. BLAKE—I did not say or imply that it was.
Mr. CAMERON said he had understood him to say that they had not taken that part that the Catholic element did.

Mr. BLAKE explained what he had said.
Mr. CAMERON—Then my hon. friend does not believe that our French fellow subjects from Lower Canada promoted this.

Mr. BLAKE—I wish that distinctly understood.

Mr. CAMERON said then it was all from the people of the territory themselves and not encouraged by outside influence. If not encouraged by outside influence, then it was the voluntary act of the people there. A people who were not in any manner subject to the control of the Government of Ontario. It was outside their jurisdiction altogether. (Hear, hear.) Then to what end was this motion! (Hear, hear.) Was it to give the hon. gentleman an opportunity on the eve of a general election to say that he declared the Lower Canadians free from all blame; was it to give him an opportunity of declaring that he should like to see our French fellow subjects from Lower Canada turning their steps towards this territory instead of leaving for the United States, and thereby throwing out, as it were, an indication of the great good feeling on his part towards them? To what other end was it going to tend? If his hon. friend in addressing the House had told it, that by the extradition laws of this country, this man was removable from American territory, and could be placed within the jurisdiction of our courts where he might be punished, and that it was our part to see that this was done, if he had shown that the law was so, then he (Mr. Cameron) could have seen some reason for the introduction of the resolutions. But he had not understood the hon. gentleman to say so. He had said that this man was living a short distance from the borders of our country, which he has desecrated by this most dastardly, most infamous act. (Applause.) And he had also said that he had been invited by the people within the territory to become a candidate for parliamentary honors, and that we should be disgraced by seeing a man who has been in arms against the Queen's authority taking his seat in the Legislative Halls by the side of honest men. He (Cameron) was sorry to say that we had seen such sights before. We had seen such men introduced to the floor of the House by the people associated with the political faction which the hon. member for Bruce now takes up. (Hear, hear.) If his hon. friend had presented any practical result to follow from the adoption of his resolution there would have been some reason for its introduction; but in all the eloquent re-

marks he made there was not a single allusion to any beneficial result that would follow from the declaration by the House adopting his motion. Perhaps the honorable gentleman, knowing that there were among the supporters of the Government many members who are united by closer ties to Scott, who he (Cameron) thought had acted the part of a hero; who he thought showed that independence and manly courage which ought to make him the admiration of all right-minded loyal men, knowing that some hon. members were thus united in a closer tie than bound other members imagined that he would place the Government in an awkward position by making these gentlemen vote against the view which the Government might think it necessary to take on this matter. But he thought that the hon. gentleman would find himself mistaken on this, as he had been on other matters. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member took every possible occasion for attacking the Dominion Government; but why it should be the object or subject of attack on the floor of this House, where we have nothing to do with the dealings of that Legislature except where they affect our rights, he was at a loss to know. The hon. gentleman thought also to embarrass certain supporters of the Government; but he would find that these hon. gentlemen, although feeling a strong sentiment of condemnation of Riel and his associates, and looking upon their act of taking away the life of Scott as a most dastardly, cowardly and wanton thing, and speaking as highly in condemnation of it, as the hon. member for Bruce, would see that it is not this Province and this Legislature which ought to deal with this matter, but that it is rather the Imperial authorities. (Applause.) He would therefore move in amendment, "That all the words after 'that', in the said resolution, be struck out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof:—Whilst this House deeply deprecates the untimely fate of our fellow-countryman, Thomas Scott, while exercising his right as a British subject, and while deeply regretting that Riel and his co-murderers have as yet escaped condign punishment, and while this House rejoices in the efforts made by the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba in issuing warrants for their arrest, and while we feel it to be our duty, as representatives of the people of Ontario, to lend our aid in bringing these murderers to justice, it feels that it would be unwise and inexpedient to interfere with the prerogative which properly belongs to another Government, and to discuss a question over which this House has no control." (Hear, hear.) He said that of course there was a statement in that amendment that the Government of Manitoba had taken steps for the arrest of parties there. That statement was made upon newspaper reports. We had no other authentic evidence of its correctness. Whether this was true or not he would submit that the subject under consideration was not one which this House could deal with. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. WOOD had listened with a great deal of pleasure to the manner in which the hon. member for South Bruce had introduced his resolutions, but it struck him that he had introduced no thought or feature in the case. From the very first intelligence of the murder, certain organs of public opinion had given the same reasons, uttered the same words and assigned the same causes. It is well known, of course, that at the time of the murder, the Dominion Government had no control over the Province of Manitoba, and he defied the hon. member to advance any proof of his assertion to that effect. With the view of ascertaining the best mode of dealing with those people, measures were taken, for gathering information about them, and this information was no doubt largely given by the Hudson Bay officials, who, he had no doubt, had exerted some influence in originating the rebellion.—All those facts were well known to the world, and he could see no reason why the hon. gentleman should repeat them to all mankind and the rest of the world. The world knew too that the murder was a cold-blooded one, and the only reason that the hon. gentleman had assigned for bringing up his resolutions was that the murderer was up to this unpunished. Now there were a great many things that mankind deplored but could not help, and it was the same with the Ontario Government. The hon. gentleman might as well put a motion on paper calling the attention of the House to the war now raging in France, or to the hundreds of cold-blooded murders in Cuba, for he seems to be gushing with sympathy for the unfortunate and ill-used. The resolutions were a reflection on every judicial officer and reflect on all the officers connected with the administration of justice in the British Empire. The hon. gentleman knew that some political capital might have been made out, and it was for that and no other reason that they were introduced. (Hear, hear.) Where was the hon. gentleman when the murder was committed! Was his voice heard in the halls of legislation on the matter? Where was his petition to the throne that justice should be done in the matter? The hon. gentleman had been very careful in speaking of the Catholics of Ontario, and in exculpating them from any blame. He had not ventured or dared to say "the Catholics" of Lower Canada, but he simply spoke of the French having little sympathy with the rebels. He was afraid boldly to say that there was not a party in Lower Canada headed by the leaders of the Catholic Church, and who are now endeavoring to gain absolute sway in Manitoba. For his part he could boldly say that the Dominion Government after the commission of the crime had acted with wisdom, and that they exercised the greatest discretion at a time when a blast of a trumpet might have aroused 50,000 Indians into a bloody war. The hon. gentleman, it appeared, was not so very much concerned about the murder of Scott, although he had said that he would not go as far as Dr. Tupper in saying that the rebels were justified in their conduct as he

was about the chance of Riel entering the Dominion Parliament. He had said that these people had no constitutional rights, and therefore they were first dissatisfied patriots of 1776 to assert their right of taxing themselves. Those very same people were now, as he said himself, endeavoring to procure Mr. Riel as their representative in the highest legislation of the country, and the hon. gentleman was afraid lest Riel should sit next to him in the Parliament of Canada. The hon. gentleman was very anxious now to have the murderer arrested, but why did he not speak before? Mr. BLAKE said he had spoken before on the subject.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—I never heard the hon. gentleman speaking in the House of Commons on the subject.

Mr. BLAKE—I did not say that I had spoken in the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—Well, wherever you spoke on the matter, it was probably for the purpose for which these resolutions are now introduced—to make political capital. What was the use, otherwise, for the hon. gentleman to speak on this murder? If he was solely dictated by a desire to see the murderer arrested, why did he not speak to those who could have obeyed his orders? Why not ask the Legislature to take steps for that object? He (Wood) felt that there was an universal feeling that it was the duty of Great Britain to move in that direction, and he was sure the Government of Ontario had no business to take up the duty of the Parliament and Government of England. The hon. gentleman had not told the House that the Government should issue a warrant for Riel's arrest; but he (Wood) believed that the people of Manitoba had good sense enough, and humanity enough, and were willing enough to take every possible means of bringing the authors of this cold-blooded, black and most enormous crime to punishment. (Hear, hear.)

On the amendment being put

Mr. BLAKE said he himself was not in the habit of imputing motives to parties who brought forward certain measures in this House, but such a course was common on the other side of the House. If this resolution was worth anything, it ought to be adopted, and he was prepared to show that those who voted for the amendment would negative the effect of the resolution, and would expressly refuse to allow the Government of this Province to take steps for the arrest of a man who had murdered one of our fellow-countrymen. The amendment stated, in effect, that it was inexpedient to discuss the murder of Scott. The amendment also called on the House to rejoice over what had been done to arrest Riel, but he could tell the House that no efforts had been made, except that Lieutenant-Governor Archibald had issued his little warrant to his parish constable, and told him to cast his blind eye in the direction of the murderers. If the amendment were passed, the House would retard the day of vengeance, when blood is to be shed for blood, as he hoped sincerely would be the case in this matter. Whether the Government of the Dominion were derelict in their duty or not, he wanted to learn from this House, that in its view justice would not be done until the perpetrators of this crime were brought to justice. The amendment wishes us to impute a paltry effort has been made, ignoring the fact that some of the associates in the murder were still living in the Province. An honorable gentleman had asked where was his petition? But what good could his petition effect, when the gentlemen opposite say that his resolution, as a representative of the people, would have no effect. If the Dominion Government were the only authorities that could affect anything, let this Government advise His Excellency to address the Governor-General on the matter. If the amendment were carried, the House would affirm that the men of Ontario ought to take no steps to seek out the man by whose hand the blood of one of themselves had been spilled.

The amendment was then put and carried.—Yeas 47; nays 28.

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Beatty, Boulter, Cal via, Cameron, Carling, (London), Carling, (Huron), Carnegie, Clarke, Code, Colquhoun, Corby, Coyne, Craig, (Glenarry), Craig, (Ru-sell), Cumberland, Currie, Eyre, Ferguson, Fitzsimmons, Graham; (Hastings), Graham, (York), Hooper, Loutat, Luton, Lyon, Macdonald, McCall, (Norfolk), McCall, Elgin, McGill, Matchett, Monteith, Murray, Read, Richards, Scott, (Grey), Scott, (Ottawa), Secord, Smith, (Leeds), Strange, Swinerton, Teit, Wallis, Wigle, Williams, (Durham), Wilson, Wood, Boyd.

NAYS—Messrs. Barber, Baxter, Blake, Boyd, Christie, Clemens, Cockburn, Cook, Crosby, Evans, Ferrier, Finlayson, Fraser, Galbraith, Gow, Mc Dougall, McKellar, McKim, McLeod, McMurrich, Paxton, Perry, Sinclair Smith, (Middlesex), Pardee, Springer, Trow, Williams, (Hamilton).—28.

The motion was then passed as amended.

LONG POINT COMPANY.

Mr. McCALL (Norfolk) moved an address for a return of particulars connected with the shares and shareholders, &c., of the Long Point Co.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON said the Company was chartered by the Parliament of Canada, and this Government had no control over it, and could give no information about it.

Mr. McCALL (Norfolk) said that recently a great portion of the land in the district which he spoke of, had gone into the hands of the Company, and there was a strong feeling against such a monopoly. The main object of his motion was to ascertain if the Company possessed a lease as they claimed of the fisheries.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON could not see by what authority the Government could require a private company or an individual to make a return of what its business was, and so on. The information asked for was not within the power of His Excellency to furnish, and a large portion of it could only be given by the Dominion Government.

Mr. McCALL (Norfolk) re-stated what he had said about the grievances of parties living in the neighborhood of the Company.

Atty.-Gen. MACDONALD said the Government could not compel the Company to furnish any of the information asked for