

mile, the total amount would be something over a million and a half, or at \$2,000 per mile it would be two hundred thousand short of that amount. That being the case, the Government had no grounds for asking the House not merely to increase the railway fund by \$400,000, but to mortgage the country for twenty years to the extent of a hundred thousand per annum. He moved an amendment (seconded by Mr. McCallum) that the report be not now received, but that the same be referred back to a Committee of the whole House with instructions to strike out sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, providing for a Railway Subsidy Fund.

Mr. Cameron, while approving of aid to railways, maintained that the Government had no right to ask for an addition to the fund while the original million and a half remained unappropriated.

The House divided on the amendment. Yeas, 21; nays, 46.

YEAS—Messrs. Cameron, Goring, Cook, Ferguson, Giffard, Grange, Guest, Lauder, McCall, McCallum, McDonald, Macdonald (Leeds), McManus, Merrick, Monk, Prince, Richards, Rykert, Webb, Wilson.—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Barber, Baxter, Bethune, Blake, Boulton, Christie, Clarke (North), Clarke (Wellington), Crooks, Corby, Craig (Georgary), Clarke (Russell), Crooks, Oresby, Deacon, Deroche, Fairbairn, Farwell, Finlayson, Galbraith, Gibbons, Gibson, Gow, Graham, Hamilton, Harrington, Hodgins, McKellar, Mackenzie, McKim, McLeod, McMe, Paxton, Perry, Read, Robinson, Scott (Grey), Scott (Ottawa), Sexton, Sinclair, Smith, Springer, Williams (Durham), Williams (Hamilton), Wood (Brant), Wood (Victoria).—46.

The amendment was declared to be lost.

Mr. Rykert moved that the report be not now received, but that the same be referred back to a Committee of the whole House, with instructions to add the following clause: "That no portion of the Railway Subsidy Fund provided by this Act shall be applied in aid of railways, until such time as Orders in Council shall have passed exhausting the whole of the Railway Fund appropriated by this Act and the Act 24 Vic., cap 2."

Mr. Blake agreed to the amendment.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, and the clause was added to the Bill.

Mr. Lauder moved an amendment providing that the fund should be appropriated in such a manner as to do justice to the claims of the municipalities that had contributed large sums for railway purposes.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the amendment was out of order.

Mr. Rykert moved that the report be not now received, but the same be referred back to a Committee of the whole House with instructions to add the following clause:—"That in the distribution of any of the funds set apart by this Act in aid of railways, all railways extending northward from Lake Erie, connecting with railroads within the meaning of the 'Act in aid of railways,' 24 Vic., cap. 2, shall be entitled to participate in said fund upon the like conditions as are provided by the said Act."

Mr. Blake explained that the Government accepted the definition of inland waters, as laid down by the late Government.

The amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Grange moved an amendment to the effect that it was desirable for a large portion of the fund to be distributed according to population and local improvements, and in doing so observed that his amendment was a *verbatim copy* of a resolution moved by the President of the Council a year ago.

Mr. Sexton moved an amendment to the amendment to the effect that the legislation of last year rendered it necessary to deal with the fund in the manner intended by this Bill.

Mr. Rykert said that the President of the Council would not dare now to vote for the resolution which he had brought forward and pressed upon the House on a previous occasion.

Mr. Cameron congratulated the Government on the ingenuity with which they were endeavoring to wiggle out of the fix. He had voted against the resolution last year and should vote against it now.

Mr. Prince said the amendment to the amendment was evidently intended to enable members on the Treasury benches to evade the obligation of voting against the resolution which they supported last year; as the amendment to the amendment, when carried, would prevent the House from dividing on the amendment of the hon. member for Lennox. (Hear, hear.) He thought this course was unfair, and the Government was acting in a manner which appeared to him to be wrong and improper. He considered that the hon. member for Lincoln deserved the thanks of the House for opposing the bill in the way he had done.

The House adjourned at half-past one.

#### Second Sitting.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

#### THE RAILWAY AID BILL.

The debate on the bill making further provision in aid of Railways was resumed by

Mr. Prince, who believed that the public opinion of the Province would in less than a year be in accordance with the views he held with respect to the surplus fund.

The House divided on Mr. Sexton's amendment to the amendment, when the numbers were—yeas, 29; nays, 21.

YEAS—Barber, Baxter, Bethune, Blake, Clarke (North), Clarke (Wellington), Craig (Georgary), Craig (Russell), Crooks, Deacon, Deroche, Fairbairn, Farwell, Finlayson, Galbraith, Gibbons, Gibson, Gow, Graham, Hamilton, Harrington, Hodgins, McKellar, Mackenzie, McLeod, McMe, Paxton, Perry, Read, Robinson, Scott (Ottawa), Sexton, Sinclair, Smith, Springer, Williams (Durham), Williams (Hamilton), Wood (Brant), Wood (Victoria).—29.

NAYS—Boulton, Boulton, Cameron, Goring, Corby, Giffard, Grange, Guest, Lauder, McCallum, McDonald, Macdonald (Leeds), McManus, Merrick, Monk, Monteth, Prince, Richards, Rykert, Webb, Wilson.—21.

The amendment as amended was declared to be carried.

The bill as amended was reported, and Mr. Blake moved that the Bill be read a third time.

Mr. Lauder was not willing to sanction a further appropriation of two millions and a half of dollars, while the municipalities which had given large bonuses were receiving no consideration. He moved an amendment to the effect that any scheme for the distribution of the fund would be unsatisfactory which did not do justice to

those municipalities which had devoted large sums to the aid of railways.

Mr. Blake said that if it had been possible for the House to take that course, whatever arguments might have been brought forward in its favor a year ago.

Mr. Wood (Brant) opposed the amendment. This talk about distributing the surplus among the municipalities could do no good. The result he had arrived at with respect to the probable revenue of the Province, was that an annual net surplus of \$630,000 might be expected; out of which the appropriations in aid of railways might be made without any mortgaging of the revenue.

Mr. Rykert supported the amendment, and disputed the accuracy of the calculations which had just been laid before the House; the increase in the expenditure had not been allowed for, and the revenue from the woods and forests must be expected to diminish at an early date. The attempt to show that the revenue would stand an additional charge of \$100,000 per annum for twenty years had entirely failed.

Mr. Cameron pointed out the inconsistency of the President of the Council who had opposed the principle of granting aid to railways, but now that he was in power and had the opportunity of carrying out those views, had adopted another policy altogether. He (Mr. Cameron) could not support the amendment; but he thought the Government had failed in their duty in not taking into consideration this session the claims of the older municipalities. (Hear, hear)

Mr. Ferguson hoped this amendment, even if it did not pass, would draw from the Government an expression of opinion as to the claims of the municipalities.

Mr. Grange believed in consistency, and that quality had not been displayed by the hon. gentlemen who last year thought the surplus fund should be divided among the municipalities, and who now thought otherwise.

Mr. Deroche maintained that the older counties had received a very large share of the public moneys, and that the new counties had had very little.

Mr. Clarke (Norfolk), made some observations about some occurrences at Quebec in 1863, but desisted on being called to order, and being appealed to by the Premier not to hinder the progress of business.

After some remarks from Mr. McCall and Mr. McManus, the House divided on Mr. Lauder's amendment. Yeas, 8; nays, 55.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

#### ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Mr. Blake laid on the table a message from His Excellency accompanying copies of Orders in Council respecting aid to railways.

The House took the usual recess.

#### Evening Sitting.

#### CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

Mr. Cameron asked when the Government expected to dispose of the remainder of the business before the House.

Mr. Blake said he hoped the House would get through by Saturday, but as it was impossible to say what amount of discussion might arise over the Bills on the list, he could not be certain that the House would be in a position to prorogue on that day.

#### DRAINAGE WORKS.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill to provide for the construction of Drainage Works, and to authorize the investment of certain moneys in debentures issued for the construction of such works.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

Mr. Crooks moved the second reading of the Bill respecting County Attorneys.

After discussion the Bill was read a second and third time and passed.

#### SUPPLY.

Mr. Mackenzie moved the second reading of the Supply Bill.

The Bill was read a second time, and third reading ordered for to-morrow.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL FARM.

Mr. Wood (Victoria) moved, seconded by Mr. Perry, for returns of all correspondence in reference to the Agricultural Farm, and report as to the soil, &c.

Mr. Blake said the view of the Government was that unless it was shown that the site chosen was totally unsuitable, it was not advisable to make any change. But no definite conclusion would be come to until further information had been obtained.

Mr. Perry, who had given notice of a similar motion, moved that the resolution be amended so as to include copies of reports respecting the working of agricultural colleges in other countries.

Mr. Wood (Brant) thought the report which had been published respecting the farm was unreliable. The Rev. Mr. Clark, who had called the attention of the Commissioner of Public Works to the site of the farm, had told him (Mr. Wood) that all things considered, it was the most eligible site that could be obtained. Instead of the large extent of sand which was reported, he was informed that there was about five acres only. It had been said the water supply was deficient, but on his visit to the farm he found plenty of water, and was told the wells were never dry. He thought the Council of the Board of Agriculture had made up their minds about the matter before they met.

Mr. Gibbons thought the farm was not a proper one for the purpose.

Mr. Carling did not believe the report was a correct one. He considered it a very fair farm. The object of the report was to get a farm near Guelph. Hon. Mr. Skead considered the farm better than the average, and offered to take 200 acres of it at \$160 per acre, if the Government was dissatisfied with it.

Mr. Rykert thought the report of the Board of Agriculture had been made from motives of revenge on the late Commissioner of Crown Lands. He had been glad to hear the statement by the hon. Premier.

Mr. Sinclair said the situation of the farm was very suitable.

Mr. Boulton said the House should be very careful about deciding to change the situation of the farm. The Government

had no doubt acted to the best of their judgment.

Mr. Graham maintained that the farm was totally unfit for the purpose.

Mr. McKellar said he had instructed the Board of Agriculture to inspect the farm, and several members of the House had visited it and their reports would be brought down to-morrow.

Mr. Scott (Grey) thought the report was not correct.

Mr. Teoley said only two members of the House had corroborated the report. He thought the farm was a desirable one.

Mr. Cameron said that not being a farmer he had, in selecting a farm, to rely on the opinions of friends, and one of the persons who recommended the farm as a suitable one was the Rev. Mr. Clarke. This was an attempt to find fault with the late Government, but it would miserably fail.

Mr. McKenzie said it was not fair to attack the gentlemen who made up the report of the Board of Agriculture and the Rev. Mr. Clarke.

After further discussion the motion was agreed to.

#### THE LAW SOCIETY.

Mr. Crooks moved the third reading of the Bill respecting the Law Society of Ontario.

Mr. Boulton moved an amendment which was opposed by Mr. Blake and Mr. Cameron, and on a division was lost by 22 to 40.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

#### INDIAN LANDS.

Mr. Prince moved an address to His Excellency the Governor-General, praying that there be initiated in the Parliament of Canada, a measure tending towards the transfer of the management of the Indian Lands to the Department of the Crown Lands of Ontario, with the view to the sale thereof, and the handing over the proceeds to the Indian Lands Department for their disposal as to them shall seem fit.

After discussion the motion was withdrawn.

#### THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Cameron moved for a return of all correspondence which has passed between any member of the present Government and the Chief Superintendent of Education during the present session.

After some explanation the motion was agreed to.

A number of bills were advanced a stage.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes past twelve.