

House, and the statement was iterated and reiterated across the floor that the country was on the brink of bankruptcy and ruin.

Mr. RYKERT—Hear, hear. (Laughter.)

Mr. PATTERSON continued—On the contrary, the country was never more prosperous than at the present day (hear, hear). for the Municipal Fund was settled, and there was yet a large surplus at the credit of the Government. (Cheers.) There was no period in the history of the country when its prospects of future prosperity were as favourable as at the present moment. It was a matter for congratulation to the House and the country that there were at the head of the Government gentlemen possessed of the ability to deal successfully with questions involving so much difficulty and labour, and it must be gratifying to these gentlemen that in return they were favoured with the confidence and esteem of the whole Province. (Loud cheers.) With these few remarks, he had great pleasure in seconding the Address.

Upon the question of the adoption of the first paragraph.

Mr. RYKERT called attention to the fact that the resolutions had not as yet been placed in the hands of the members, and were not, therefore, before the House.

Mr. CAMERON said it was the custom to place the printed copy of the resolutions in the hands of the members, and he thought this all the more necessary upon this occasion, because it was the intention of some gentlemen upon his side of the House to propose several amendments to these resolutions.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said it was quite within the knowledge of gentlemen opposite that the Address was a mere re-echo of the Speech, and as the printer had not been able to get the copies of the Address printed in time, but was only able to place a copy in the hands of the Speaker, he did not see what hon. gentlemen could offer any objection to proceeding in the meantime without them.

Mr. CAMERON said his recollection was that they had always had before them copies of the resolutions while they were discussing them, as they desired to have the material before them to enable them to make the proposed amendments.

The SPEAKER said it had been the practice generally to have the resolutions printed and in the hands of members, and this would have been the case in the present instance but for the fact that they were not printed in time. There was, however, no practical difficulty arising therefrom which would hinder the discussion of the Address, which he ruled to be now in order.

The first and second paragraphs were then put, and carried *nem. con.*

On the question of the adoption of the third paragraph, relating to the success of the emigration schemes of the Government,

Mr. CAMERON said that before the House assumed that the alleged progress had been made, some of the facts should be laid before them. They should be informed what was the extent of the immigration as compared with last year; what the expenditure in connection therewith as compared with last year, and so on. It would be well that these facts should be considered in connection with this paragraph.

Hon. Mr. MOWAT said he was quite willing to give his hon. friend all the information he desired upon those points. According to the official statement, which had been made up to some day in December, 1873, the number of immigrants who remained at the various points—Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, and London—was 38,891, and the number who remained in the territory for the corresponding period last year—that is, 1872—was 28,29. Thus there was an excess over 1872 of some 10,762. (Hear, hear.) The total expenditure on immigration into the Province had been about \$150,000, out of which the Provincial treasury expended \$135,000, and the Dominion Government \$18,000. Supposing that the whole amount had been expended in procuring the 10,000 extra emigrants already alluded to, he considered it would have been money well spent. (Hear, hear.) A large portion of the immigration, he had no doubt, arose from the means taken by the agencies of the Government to circulate information respecting this country, and the increased activity exerted in every branch connected with the Department for the purpose of showing the claims of this Dominion upon the attention of those intending to leave the old country. Assistance to such had been given to the extent of \$72,000, and it

was a well-known fact that there was a vast number of those whom it was desirable to bring to this country who required some assistance. The increase in the immigration was worth far more to this country than the difference in the expenditure; in fact, this was a point which he did not believe that any honourable gentleman would dispute, and he thought public feeling approved of it distinctly and fully (Hear, hear.) There was nothing of which this country was more in want than increased immigration, and there was no duty which more directly weighed upon the Government, or more deserved their attention, than the inducement of emigrants to come and settle in our country, and so add to its wealth and enterprise. The people of the United States calculated that every immigrant was worth \$1,000. At this calculation, the increase to the wealth of the country during the past year was something like \$400,000. (Cheers.)

The third paragraph was then carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the fourth paragraph,

Mr. CAMERON agreed that it was necessary that something should be done on the question of the amendment of the School Law. But if the direction of the amendment proposed by the Government was to be in the direction indicated by the hon. member who seconded the Address, he was not satisfied that these amendments were in the interest of the country. It was possible that in some portions of the country the present School Law was burdensome, but in others it was not; and while he was in favour of relieving those who really were unable to bear the burden, he was not in favour of loosing those who were able. The welfare and health of the pupils required the greatest necessary accommodation. The question had never been regarded as a political one, and he assured the hon. gentlemen opposite that they would receive every possible assistance from the House in framing an improved measure. (Hear, hear.)

On the question of the adoption of the fifth clause,

Mr. BOULTBEE regarded the paragraph as rather peculiar in the light of the proceedings upon the Orange Bills last session. He referred at length to these proceedings, and charged the Government with having acted in a most strange and unconstitutional manner. He asserted that the hon. member for Grenville, now a member of the Government, had attacked the religion to which he (Mr. Boultee) belonged in a most malignant manner during the course of the debate last year. The conduct of the leader of the Government had been very different from what people had been led to expect of him from the prestige which his friends claimed for him when he joined the Administration. He was surprised that the Government had again brought this question up, and thrown it as a bone of contention between the contending parties, and giving rise to that acrimonious feeling which it could not fail again to do. He severely criticised the conduct of the Government in reserving these Bills for the assent of the Governor-General, and especially in now bringing them up again upon this occasion. If the Government were allowed to do this sort of thing, it would be establishing a precedent to the Constitution, and he affirmed that there was nothing to equal this since the days of the Stuarts. Such a precedent would enable the Government of the day to burke any legislation which it might seem good to the House to pass, provided that

legislation were not in accordance with the views of the members of the Administration. It was entirely opposed to the professions of the so-called Liberal party in days that are passed, and in any party opposed to them would be declaimed against as subversive of the liberties of the people. He characterized the conduct of the Government as truckling to both Roman Catholics and Orangemen. He professed to be unable to fully understand the meaning of the paragraph, and moved in amendment, that the following words be added to the resolution:—“That while willing to give our best consideration to any measure that may be proposed to us for such general Act of Incorporation as His Excellency has promised, we cannot refrain from the expression of our regret that His Excellency was advised to reserve for the assent of the Governor-General, the Bills passed by this House last session, entitled An Act for the Incorporation of the Loyal Orange Association of Eastern Ontario, and an Act for the Incorporation of the Loyal Orange Association of Western Ontario, as the subject matter of