

that indicated for the future. There were more immigrants in Canada to-day than could obtain employment, and many of them would find it difficult to obtain sustenance during the winter. In the name of the artisan class he protested against the machinery by which the immigration was conducted. Any mechanic or clerk had only to represent himself as an agricultural labourer to the Government agent abroad and he was granted an assisted passage, for the agent was not particular as to the applicant's occupation but looked only at making up a good round total for the year. A large proportion of those shipped as agricultural labourers proved to be mechanics. Probably there was a scarcity of agricultural labourers and domestic servants during the summer months, but when winter came there was an excessive supply, and the country must either build poor-houses in which they can be maintained or provide them with employment. He would, therefore, be glad to see the estimate under the head of immigration transferred to public works in connection with our railway policy, and thus, by providing immigrants with employment during the winter season, retain them in the country. He hoped the Government would take this matter into consideration. Instead of spending money on immigration he would like to see it put into railway enterprises. People who came here, finding so much difficulty in getting to the back country went to the United States where the communication was so much easier. He believed money laid out on railways would return itself tenfold. He hoped a liberal policy would be assented to by the whole House. He had had to fight both parties in his election, and was perfectly independent, at the same time he agreed with the general policy of the Government and would give them a fair support.

Mr. HAY said his experience was that there was no difficulty in getting employment for agricultural immigrants of a right character if they would engage by the year at \$150 or \$160 and their keep. The Government agencies at home sent out none but the right class, but the steamboat companies sent out any one who would pay them the money. Any appropriation for immigration should be voted on the understanding that agricultural hands alone should be brought out. We did not want skilled labourers, as we had plenty of them already. He denied that many of our immigrants had gone to the United States, and remarked that few of ours had been obliged to return to Europe like large numbers from the States. He had heard that those who held timber licenses had power to take away the settler's hay after it was cut and stacked. If that were true it should be remedied. He pointed out that the personal attack made had emanated from the Opposition side of the House, and told the Opposition members that if they desired the discussions to be clear from personalities they should avoid them themselves. He hoped they would legislate in the interests of the country rather than party, though the latter was a necessity of representative institutions. As long as the Government continued to pursue a right course they would have his support. (Applause.)

Mr. CREIGHTON complained that the Government had not given the information asked for by the Opposition. He claimed that the state of parties had entirely changed at Confederation, and that several who formerly followed the Hon. Mr. Brown had declined to follow him into Opposition, and thus gentlemen were now found on one side of the House who were formerly on the other. Extreme partyism in Ontario was absurd, and, though the real Reformers were on the Speaker's left, he thought those who asserted that slandered the Government, who had reformed the report of the Proton Outrage Committee, the law compelling them to advertise for tenders for public works, and other things of that kind. These, however, were not true reforms, and he thought hon. gentlemen opposite had violated their principles since they went into office. He was glad a measure was promised for the payment of Crown witnesses, but complained that there had been a delay in the publication of the Public Accounts for 1874. He had come here as a Reformer in the true meaning of the word, and urged a reform in the expedition with which public documents were submitted. The great mass of the voting population did not care the loss of a copper which party was in power if they conducted the affairs of the Province wisely. If the present Government did that he would not give them a factious opposition.

Mr. RICHARDSON held that members of the Opposition, instead of throwing obstructions in the way of the business of the House, should assist the Government in carrying on their measures. He was very much pleased with the conduct of the press of both parties in regard to the appointment of the present Lieutenant-Governor. He believed that instead of making the penalties of the election law so severe upon the receiver of bribes, the man who offered them should be punished with more severity. He had his fears of the working of the ballot in municipal elections, owing to the difficulty attending its operation when there was a large number of candidates. It would be too cumbersome and expensive. He thought, too, that larger powers should be granted to municipalities with regard to their division into polling places. He believed the railway policy of the Government was the very best thing for the development of the country if judiciously carried out. He paid a high tribute to the value of the services rendered the educational interests of the Province by Dr. Ryerson, and hoped the gentleman who should be appointed Minister of Public Instruction would not allow any falling off in the present educational efficiency of the Province. He was in favour of a measure for the payment of all witnesses in criminal cases, and one whereby, instead of having the sales of non-resident lands effected at the county seats, they would be sold in the township in which they were situated. The lists of such lands, instead of being merely advertised in the *Ontario Gazette*, should be posted up and distributed in the same way as the voters' lists now were. Though he was elected to support the Opposition, he could assure the House it would not be a slavish support. He thought the Speech from the Throne should have contained some reference to the question of prohibition.

Mr. HUNTER said he was an independent supporter of the Government. He was pleased to notice the improvement in the tone of the debate to night upon that of last Friday evening, and said it was a comparison not very favourable to either the members of the Government or leading members of the Opposition, for most of these had spoken on Friday evening. He referred at some length to the missionary efforts of the member for South Simcoe, and said his proper place in the House, judging by his past record, would be between the two sides. He denied that there had been any interference by the Government with the independence of their supporters in regard to the election of the Speaker. He had been very sorry to hear a remark made by the hon. member for East Toronto to the effect that pressure must have been brought to bear upon the Chief Superintendent of Education to induce him to resign.

Mr. CAMERON—I didn't make that remark. It was the member for South Simcoe.

Mr. HUNTER said it was all the same. (Hear, hear.) It was, whoever had made it, an uncalled for remark. He proceeded to read from the *Journal of Education* for October a report of a speech made by Dr. Ryerson at the opening of the Ottawa Normal School, in which he stated that the time had come when the administration of the Department of Education should be entrusted to a responsible Minister, and that he had advocated this in 1868 to Sandfield Macdonald, but that gentleman had not favoured it. Dr. Ryerson had also stated that since that time (1868) he had never ceased to urge such a change in educational management. It therefore seemed that the pressure was of another kind entirely. The measure giving aid to railways was one of the most acceptable to the Province, and the Sandfield Macdonald Government did not fail because of aiding railways, but on account of the manner in which they proposed to aid them. He would support any railway measure, though at the same time considerable discretion was needed in granting aid to new enterprises. Though the bill of fare presented by the Government might be deemed somewhat meagre, it might be supplemented by the leader of the Administration. He was so well satisfied with the legislative and administrative ability displayed by them that he was prepared to give them a cordial and hearty support. If they continued to watch with prudence and wisdom the interest of the Province he would give them a warm support.

Dr. HANEY referred to his recent election contests and proceeded to express the satisfaction of the people of Monck with the